

CITY OF



LANCASTER

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER,

1958.





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R. W. FARQUHAR, B.Sc.(Agri.), M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.



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\*Till 30.9.58.

†Till 31.7.58.

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF  
THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Public Health Department,  
Thurnham Street,  
Lancaster.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting for your consideration my Annual Report for 1958 on the health services of the City.

The estimated population at mid-year, 1958, was 49,150, a decrease of 180 from the previous year, and 2,551 or 4.9 per cent. less than the 1951 census figure of 51,661. The greater part of this loss must be attributed to the migration, mostly of younger people, from the City.

In contrast, the proportion of old people in the population is steadily rising here as it is throughout the country generally, and approximately 8,000 (16 per cent.) of the inhabitants of this City are now persons of pensionable age. Of these it is estimated that fully 1,100 are living alone, and sufficient special housing accommodation in flatlets or bungalows must be provided for such old people if they are to avoid having to seek admission to communal homes.

The most impressive evidence of medical achievement during the past two decades in this country has been the reduction of infant and maternal mortality. The more favourable trend of infant mortality in Lancaster over the last four years can be seen in Table 6, the death rate in 1958, at 18.4 per 1,000 live births, being the lowest ever recorded. A long term view of maternal mortality is provided in Table 5; in 1958 there were no deaths from maternal causes in Lancaster, and the national rate reached a new low level of 0.43 per 1,000 total births.

Fewer cases of infectious diseases were notified during 1958 than in any previous year on record. Poliomyelitis did not recur and the number of new cases of tuberculosis fell to a new low level. Progress was made also with the programme of immunisation and vaccination, resulting in a considerable increase in the number of children who received protection against diphtheria, whooping cough and poliomyelitis.

The pattern of morbidity in the working population in the Lancaster area is well brought out in the graph facing page 16 which shows the incidence of new cases of sickness arising each week of the year.

A perusal of the section on environmental health will reveal the vital importance of the work carried out day-by-day in maintaining high standards in regard to the purity, safety and cleanliness of the water we drink, the food we eat, and the air we breathe.

In reviewing the changes and developments in the housing situation over the past ten years, the Chief Public Health Inspector has indicated that substantial progress has been made in the building of new houses and towards slum clearance and redevelopment. It is apparent, however, that much less has been accomplished in regard to older houses in the City, either in their preservation by means of repair or in their modernisation through improvement grants. Having shown that the number of owner-occupiers in Lancaster has increased by 10 per cent. since 1948 till now one half of all the houses are owned by the people who live in them, he goes on to suggest that this trend may well continue and must radically affect future housing policy.

Although vital statistics and the low level of infectious diseases in 1958 are reassuring there remains the challenge of much existing ill-health and suffering, both mental and physical, nor can we continue to ignore the increasing loss of life from accidents on the roads and in the home. We must find the means to overcome ignorance and apathy and encourage a much fuller use of the preventive health services.

I take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the conscientious working of the Health Department staff, and my pleasure in the continued interest and support of the Health Committee in its work.

Yours faithfully,

R. W. FARQUHAR,

*Medical Officer of Health.*



SECTION “ A ”

**Statistics and Social Conditions  
of the Area**

# SUMMARY OF STATISTICS — 1958

Area (in acres) ... ..	5,036
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate) mid-year 1958 ...	49,150
Number of Inhabited Houses according to Rate Books ...	14,062
Rateable Value ... ..	£552,076
Sum represented by a Penny Rate ... ..	£2,218

LIVE BIRTHS	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate ... ..	357	354	711
Illegitimate ... ..	32	19	51
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	389	373	762
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population ... 15.5

STILL BIRTHS	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate ... ..	6	5	11
Illegitimate ... ..	1	1	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	7	6	13
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ... 16.8

DEATHS (Total) ... ..	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
	383	370	753
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population			15.3

DEATHS FROM MATERNAL CAUSES ... ..	nil
Maternity Mortality Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ... ..	nil

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate ... ..	6	6	12
Illegitimate ... ..	1	1	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	7	7	14
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births ... 18.4

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS OF AGE	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate ... ..	4	4	8
Illegitimate ... ..	1	1	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	5	5	10
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births ... 13.1

DEATHS FROM CERTAIN SPECIFIED DISEASES	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 est. Population</i>
Cancer (all forms) ... ..	114	2.32
Tuberculosis (respiratory) ... ..	2	0.04

Table 1

## DEATHS IN THE CITY OF LANCASTER DURING 1958

## CLASSIFIED BY CAUSE AND SEX

<i>Causes</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Tuberculosis, Respiratory ... ..	—	2	2
Tuberculosis, Other ... ..	—	—	—
Syphilitic Disease ... ..	1	1	2
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections ... ..	—	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	—	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases ...	—	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach ... ..	12	5	17
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus ...	19	1	20
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast ... ..	—	11	11
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus ... ..	—	4	4
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	31	30	61
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia ... ..	—	1	1
Diabetes ... ..	—	—	—
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ...	40	62	102
Coronary Disease, Angina ... ..	93	54	147
Hypertension with Heart Disease ... ..	6	6	12
Other Heart Disease ... ..	40	64	104
Other Circulatory Disease ... ..	15	16	31
Influenza ... ..	3	4	7
Pneumonia ... ..	24	41	65
Bronchitis ... ..	26	7	33
Other Diseases of Respiratory System ...	7	5	12
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ... ..	5	2	7
Gastritis, Enteritis, and Diarrhoea ... ..	—	1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis ... ..	1	3	4
Hyperplasia of Prostate ... ..	3	—	3
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion ... ..	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations ... ..	1	3	4
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases ...	33	33	66
Motor Vehicle Accidents ... ..	7	—	7
All Other Accidents ... ..	6	9	15
Suicide ... ..	10	2	12
Homicide and Operations of War ... ..	—	—	—
TOTAL DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES ... ..	383	370	753

Table 22

## DEATHS CLASSIFIED BY AGE GROUP AND LOCALITY—1958

WARD	0	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65	75	80	Total
Castle ... ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	17	19	11	17	69
John o'Gaunt ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	13	16	12	22	67
Park ... ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	8	42	82	54	63	252*
Queen's ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	11	13	17	50
St. Anne's ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	16	10	6	7	42
Scotforth ... ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	5	24	25	21	24	104
Skerton East ... ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	1	17	18	10	19	70
Skerton West ... ..	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	5	17	35	17	18	99
Total ... ..	14	—	—	—	1	2	1	3	7	24	154	216	144	187	753

\*Includes 234 deaths assigned to the City which occurred in Lancaster Moor Hospital and Bay View.

Table 3

LANCASTER VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1958 AND THE PERIOD 1953 - 1957

Mid-Year	Estimated Home Population	Live Births		Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
		No. regis-tered	Crude Rate per 1,000 pop'n	No. regis-tered	Crude Rate per 1,000 pop'n	No. regis-tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths regis-tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	Total		Neo-natal	
										No. of deaths regis-tered	Rate per 1,000 Live births	No. of deaths regis-tered	Rate per 1,000 Live births
1958	49,150	762	*15.5	753	*15.3	13	16.8	Nil	Nil	14	18.4	10	13.1
1957	49,330	702	14.2	802	16.3	12	17	1	1.40	21	30	12	17
1956	49,530	655	13.2	750	15.1	7	11	1	1.51	18	27	10	15
1955	49,750	709	14.3	763	15.3	15	21	1	1.38	23	32	13	18
1954	49,910	636	12.7	689	13.8	15	23	Nil	Nil	28	44	21	33
1953	50,330	744	14.8	771	15.3	22	29	3	3.92	24	32	18	24
Average 5 years, 1953-57...		—	13.8	—	15.1	—	20	—	1.64	—	33	—	21
Average 10 years, 1948-57		—	14.6	—	13.6	—	21	—	1.55	—	36	—	—

\*Adjusted live birth-rate for 1958 (comparability factor 1.08) = (16.7 per 1,000).

\*Adjusted death-rate for 1958 (comparability factor 0.78) = (11.9 per 1,000).



## COMMENTS ON VITAL STATISTICS

### Population

The Registrar-General's estimate of the home population at mid-year, 1958, was 49,150, a decrease of 180 from the 1957 figure. The population at the 1951 census was 51,661 and since then the estimated figures have indicated a fairly steady decline each year, amounting in total to a loss in population of 2,551 or 4.9 per cent.

The excess of deaths over live births during this same period of years is sufficient to account for only a small part of the estimated decrease in the population of the City, which must therefore mainly be attributed to migration.

### Births

In 1958 there were 762 registered live births, 60 more than in the previous year, which gives a crude birth rate of 15.5 per 1,000 population. In order to compare local with national birth and death rates an adjustment must be made to the former to allow for differences in age and sex distribution. Lancaster's adjusted birth rate of 16.7 may be compared with the crude rate for England and Wales (16.4) and with the adjusted rate for the Administrative County (16.5). Further details and comparisons are given in Table 3.

Of the total births, 51 or 6.7 per cent. were illegitimate.

### Deaths

Deaths from all causes numbered 753, 49 less than in the previous year, corresponding to a crude death rate of 15.3 per 1,000 population. After adjustment with the area comparability factor of 0.78, the rate was 11.9 per 1,000, which may be compared with the crude rate for England and Wales of 11.7 per 1,000. The adjusted death rate for the Administrative County in 1958 was 13.9 per 1,000 population, mortality in the North-Western region being consistently higher than in more favourable regions in the South, and therefore exceeding the national figure.

Table 1 shows the deaths classified by cause and sex under the 36 main headings used by the Registrar-General, but the relative importance of the principal causes may be more clearly seen from the table below.

Principal Causes of Death	1957		1958	
	No. of Deaths	Percent. of Total	No. of Deaths	Percent. of Total
Heart and Circulatory Diseases ... ..	315	39.3	294	39.1
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System ...	100	12.5	102	13.6
Cancer (including Leukaemia) ... ..	115	14.4	114	15.1
Respiratory Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis)	106	13.2	117	15.5
Violence (including motor vehicle accidents)	25	3.1	34	4.4
Diseases of the Digestive System ... ..	9	1.1	8	1.1
Diseases of the Kidney and Prostate ... ..	10	1.2	7	0.9
Tuberculosis (all forms) ... ..	12	1.5	2	0.3
Infective Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) ...	8	1.0	5	0.7
All other causes ... ..	102	12.7	70	9.3
Total ... ..	802	100.0	753	100.0

## **Heart Disease**

Disease of the heart and circulatory system again appeared as the most common cause of death and in this group coronary thrombosis continues to be the chief culprit. Adequate scientific evidence concerning the exact causation of this disease is still lacking, but relative over-consumption of food (especially animal fat), associated with reduced physical activity in early and middle adult life, and excessive smoking, appear from the reports of several investigators to be the most significant factors. Moderation in living habits may yet prove to be the key to the prevention or control of coronary disease.

## **Lung Cancer**

The death rate from lung cancer has greatly increased in Great Britain and other countries during the last 25 years. In Lancaster 8 males and 2 females died from this cause in 1950, and 19 males and 1 female in 1958, but the smallness of the figures makes it difficult to draw any valid conclusions.

The most reasonable interpretation of the very great increase in deaths from lung cancer in males during the past 25 years is that a major part of it is caused by smoking tobacco, particularly heavy cigarette smoking. The evidence to date suggests that 1 in 8 of lifelong heavy smokers die of lung cancer, against 1 in 300 of non-smokers. Knowledge of the cause of lung cancer is still incomplete, and other factors such as atmospheric pollution may also play a contributory part. Intensive research is continuing. Meanwhile it is imperative to impress upon the young the dangers of cigarette smoking and to dissuade them from acquiring a habit which is harmful to health.

## **Maternal Mortality**

Under the heading of "pregnancy, childbirth and abortion" no deaths were recorded in 1958. In Table 5 are set out the annual maternal mortality for Lancaster M.B., the Administrative County, and for England and Wales over the past ten years, but it should be noted that, owing to the smallness of the absolute figures for the City, it is perhaps unwise to overstress the differences in the respective maternal death rates. The national rate for 1958 reached a new low record of 0.43 per 1,000 total births.

At the instigation of the Ministry of Health, in May, 1956, discussions were held at hospital group level between professional representatives of the hospital and specialist services, the local health authority services and the general practitioners to discuss toxæmia of pregnancy in relation to maternal mortality in their areas. Locally a Standing Obstetric Advisory Committee, of which your Medical Officer of Health is a member, was subsequently set up to keep this matter under review, particularly in regard to the standard of ante-natal care.



Table 5

MATERNAL MORTALITY, 1948-1958  
Comparative Statement of Maternal Death Rates for Lancaster M.B., the  
Administrative County of Lancaster and England and Wales

Year	Lancaster M.B.		Lancs. Admin. County		England & Wales
	No. of Maternal Deaths	Mortality per 1,000 total births	No. of Maternal Deaths	Mortality per 1,000 total births	Mortality per 1,000 total births
1958	Nil	Nil	18	0.45	0.43
1957	1	1.40	20	0.58	0.47
1956	1	1.51	19	0.58	0.56
1955	1	1.38	40	1.31	0.64
1954	Nil	Nil	27	0.90	0.69
1953	3	3.92	39	1.26	0.75
1952	1	1.33	24	0.80	0.72
1951	1	1.34	21	0.69	0.81
1950	1	1.28	31	0.98	0.87
1949	1	1.07	32	0.97	0.98
1948	2	2.27	38	1.07	1.02
Average Mortality 10 years, 1948-1957		1.55		0.84	0.75

Table 6

INFANT MORTALITY, 1948-1958  
Comparative Statement of Infant Death Rates for Lancaster M.B., the  
Administrative County of Lancaster and England and Wales

Year	Lancaster M.B.		Lancs. Ad. County	England & Wales
	No. of Infant Deaths	Mortality per 1,000 live births	Mortality per 1,000 live births	Mortality per 1,000 rel. live births
1958	14	18.4	25.6	22.5
1957	21	30	25	23
1956	18	21	27	24
1955	23	32	27	25
1954	28	44	29	25
1953	24	32	29	27
1952	32	43	30	28
1951	28	38	29	30
1950	38	49	31	30
1949	32	39	38	32
1948	24	28	40	34
Average Mortality 10 years, 1948-1957		35.6	30.5	27.8

## Infant Mortality

In 1958 there were 14 deaths of infants under one year of age, equivalent to an infant mortality rate of 18.4 per 1,000 live births. The annual average rate for the years 1953—1957 was 33. Comparisons with other areas may be seen in Table 6.

Many of the 14 infant deaths assigned to the City were classified by the Registrar-General under “other defined and ill-defined diseases.” With the aid of departmental records such group classifications have been broken down so as to show the causes of death more specifically, as in the table below.

Cause	Under 1 day	1—7 days	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1—3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	Total
Pneumonia (including pneumonia of the newborn) ... ..	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	1	3
Bronchitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Gastro-enteritis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis (pneumococcal) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations:—											
renal system ... ..	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
spinal meningocele ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
other malformations of nervous system ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Birth Injuries ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Post natal asphyxia and atelectasis ..	2	2	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	4
Other diseases peculiar to early infancy:—											
haemolytic disease of the newborn	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
haemorrhagic disease of the newborn ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
prematurity (unqualified) ... ..	1	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
All other causes ... ..	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
	4	4	1	1	—	10	1	—	2	1	14

### **Neo-Natal Mortality**

There were 10 neo-natal deaths (under 4 weeks of age), 2 less than in the previous year. The resultant neo-natal mortality rate of 13.1 per 1,000 live births compares favourably with the average rate (21) over the previous 5 years (Table 3).

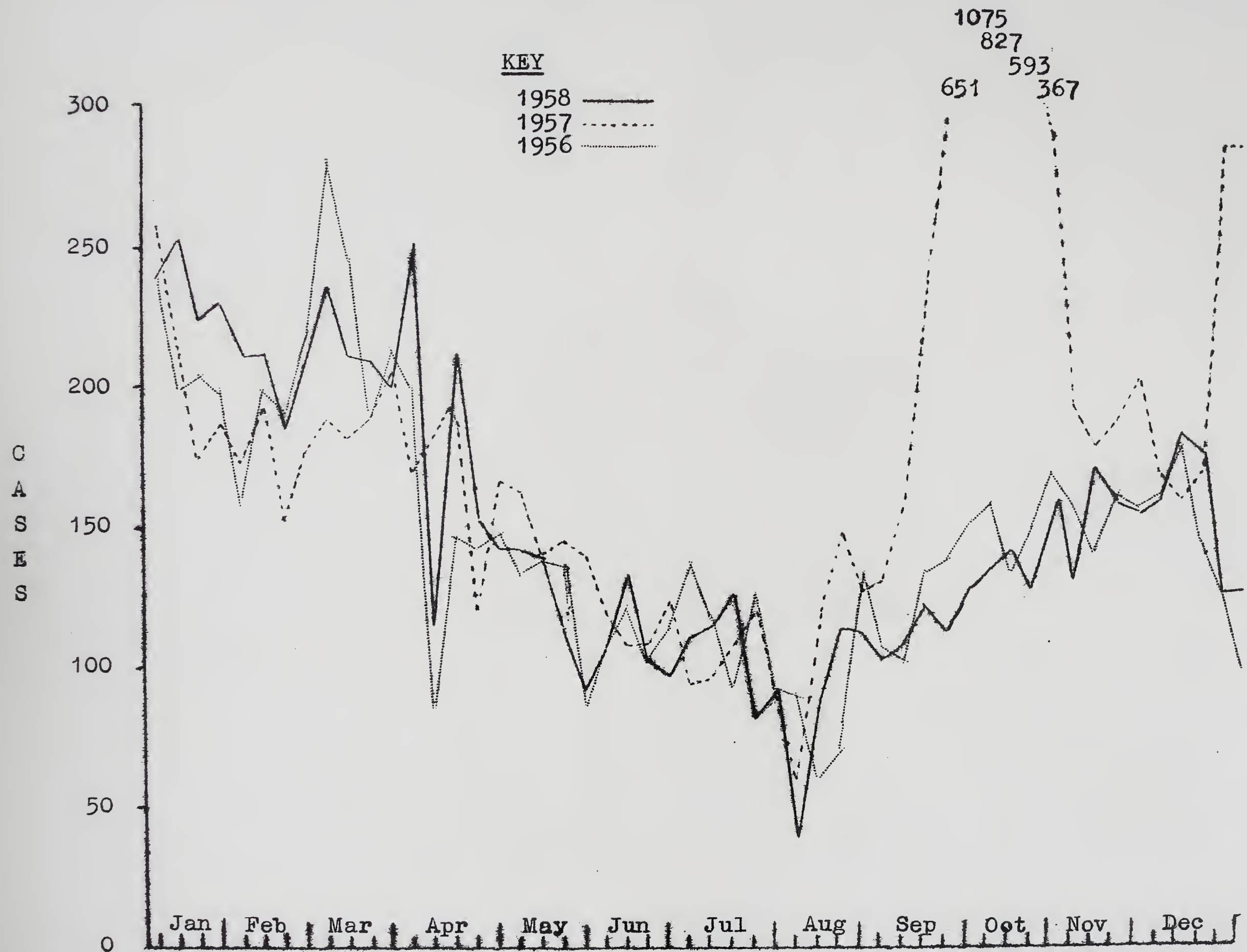
Eight out of the 10 neo-natal deaths occurred within a week of birth and were mainly due to congenital malformations, post-natal asphyxia, and other diseases peculiar to early infancy. Much still remains to be elucidated concerning the causes of neo-natal deaths and stillbirths.

### **Morbidity—Weekly Rate of New Claims to Sickness Benefit**

I am indebted to the Manager of the local office of the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance for the information overleaf, showing the weekly number of new claims to sickness benefit made by the working population in the Lancaster area. These records cover Lunesdale and part of Lancaster Rural Districts as well as Lancaster City. In 1958 the peak period occurred in the week ending 1st April, when 249 first certificates of sickness were submitted in one week. The accompanying graph shows that the trend of morbidity has followed a roughly similar pattern in each of the three years 1956, 1957, and 1958, apart from the peak periods of sickness caused by influenza or other respiratory infections.

It should be noted that the figures do not relate to the total amount of sickness in the working population, but merely indicate the incidence of new cases of sickness arising each week.





WEEKLY INCIDENCE OF SICKNESS - WORKING POPULATION.

LANCASTER AREA



NO. OF NEW CLAIMS PER WEEK — WORKING POPULATION, 1958

Jan. 7 ... 239	Apl. 8 ... 115	July 8 ... 117	Oct. 7 ... 136
„ 14 ... 254	„ 15 ... 213	„ 15 ... 128	„ 14 ... 149
„ 21 ... 225	„ 22 ... 153	„ 22 ... 81	„ 21 ... 129
„ 28 ... 231	„ 29 ... 144	„ 29 ... 94	„ 28 ... 162
Feb. 4 ... 212	May 6 ... 143	Aug. 5 ... 39	Nov 4 ... 131
„ 11 ... 213	„ 13 ... 138	„ 12 ... 87	„ 11 ... 172
„ 18 ... 184	„ 20 ... 114	„ 19 ... 115	„ 18 ... 163
„ 25 ... 214	„ 27 ... 93	„ 26 ... 113	„ 25 ... 157
Mar. 4 ... 237	June 3 ... 108	Sept. 2 ... 103	Dec. 2 ... 161
„ 11 ... 211	„ 10 ... 135	„ 9 ... 109	„ 9 ... 184
„ 18 ... 210	„ 17 ... 104	„ 16 ... 123	„ 16 ... 176
„ 25 ... 201	„ 24 ... 98	„ 23 ... 113	„ 23 ... 127
Apl. 1 ... 249	July 1 ... 112	„ 30 ... 127	„ 30 ... 128

SICKNESS BENEFIT — AVERAGE NO. OF NEW CLAIMS PER WEEK

1953	...	140
1954	...	150
1955	...	160
1956	...	148
1957	...	218
1958	...	151



SECTION “ B ”

**General Provisions of Health  
Services in the Area**



## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

The main work of the Public Health Department concerns the control of infectious diseases and environmental health and detailed reports on these services, which are directly controlled by the City Council, will be found in Section " C " and Section " D."

The present section is related to those health services which concern mainly the personal health and welfare of the individual rather than public health and the community. Although administered by statutory authorities other than the City Council, it is felt that some brief account of the nature and scope of these services will be of interest to the Health Committee and, indeed, to the general public.

### Local Health Services under Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946

Divisional Health Committee No. 2 of the Lancashire County Council are responsible for the day-to-day administration of the following health services, which are available to the citizens of Lancaster as well as to the inhabitants of the surrounding districts.

1. *Case of Expectant and Nursing Mothers and Young Children* including the provision of ante-natal clinics, post-natal care, dental care, child welfare centres and day nurseries, as well as special arrangements for premature babies, unmarried mothers, convalescent care, etc.
2. *Domiciliary Midwifery.*
3. *Health Visiting.*
4. *Home Nursing.*
5. *Home Help Service*, including night and evening attendance.
6. *Immunisation and Vaccination*, existing schemes afford protection to children against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus. More recently vaccination against poliomyelitis and tuberculosis has been made available to certain age groups.
7. *Ambulance Service.*
8. *Mental Health Service.* This provides supervision and after-care for two distinct classes, viz., those suffering from mental illness and those who are mentally handicapped. Mental Welfare Officers are responsible for the community care of such persons, working in close co-operation with general practitioners and consultant psychiatrists.

A Junior Training Centre has been established at Greaves House, Lancaster, for severely subnormal children as well as a creche for other children who may be physically as well as mentally handicapped.

9. *Prevention of Illness and Care and After-Care of Persons suffering from Illness*, including health education, convalescent care, prevention and after-care of tuberculosis, provision of nursing equipment and apparatus, after-care of persons discharged from hospital, and a domiciliary laundry service.

### **Welfare Services—National Assistance Act, 1948**

The following welfare services are also administered by the Divisional Health Committee :—

1. *Residential Accommodation*. For persons in need of care and attention not otherwise available to them, accommodation is provided in the following hostels—Bay View, Laurels and Fair Elms, Lancaster; the Empress Hostel at Morecambe; Moor Platt and The Hermitage at Caton.
2. *Care of Aged Persons in their Own Homes*. The domiciliary services provided by the County Council have been expanded, where necessary, so as to give adequate assistance, support and encouragement, in conjunction with local voluntary organisations, to enable old people to continue to live in their own homes.
3. *Handicapped Persons*. Registers are maintained for the blind, the partially sighted and the deaf for whom certain welfare services are made available through the agency of voluntary organisations. Other classes of handicapped persons, including cripples, epileptics and spastics, may after registration, be provided with occupational therapy, transport to social centres, holidays, etc.
4. *Homes for Disabled and/or Old Persons*. There are 7 homes of this nature in the division, all managed by voluntary organisations or by private individuals. These are registered and inspected regularly by the divisional medical staff.

### **School Health Service—Education Act, 1944**

The school health service is controlled centrally by a committee of the County Council, and for the local administration of this service, the Divisional Medical Officer is responsible to the County Medical Officer of Health.

In addition to the routine medical and dental inspections of children carried out in the City schools, various clinics, some attended by visiting specialists, are provided for the correction or treatment of certain defects.

The admission of handicapped pupils to special schools is arranged through the County Medical Officer of Health. Medical supervision of children under the care of the Children's Department is also undertaken by the school medical officers. Details relating to local clinics are set out in the table below :—

### CLINIC AND TREATMENT CENTRES—LANCASTER CITY

	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
I. ANTE-NATAL (1) Ashton Road (2) Ryelands House	— —	— —	— —	— —	2-4 p.m. (fortnightly) 9-30-11-30 am (fortnightly)	— —
II. CHILD WELFARE (1) Ashton Road (2) Ryelands House (3) Cong. Church, Hala Estate (4) 11 Patterdale Road Ridge Estate.	— 2-4 p.m. 2-4 p.m. —	— — — —	2-4 p.m. — — 2-4 p.m.	2-4 p.m. 9-30-11-30 — —	— — — —	— — — —
III. IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION (1) Ashton Road (2) Ryelands House (3) 11 Patterdale Road, Ridge Estate	} Arranged as required—usually fortnightly					
IV. MINOR AILMENTS (1) Ashton Road (2) Ryelands House	a.m. 9 - 10-30 9 - 10-30	a.m. 9 - 10-30 —	a.m. 9 - 10-30 9 - 10-30	a.m. 9 - 10-30 —	a.m. 9 - 10-30 9 - 10-30	— —
V. INSPECTION CLINIC (1) Ashton Road (2) Ryelands House	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	a.m. 9-30-11-30 9-30-11-30
VI. OPHTHALMIC Ashton Road	—	—	—	—	—	First & third Saturdays of month
VII. ORTHOPÆDIC Ashton Road	—	By appointm't	—	—	—	—
VIII. CHIROPODY Ashton Road	—	—	9-30 a.m. to 12 noon	—	—	—
IX. SPEECH THERAPY (2) Ryelands House	—	9-30-4-30 pm	9-30 a.m. to 4-30 p.m.	—	—	—
X. DENTAL Ashton Road	Monday to Friday, 9-30 a.m - 4 p.m. daily by arrangement.					



## **Laboratory Facilities**

The bacteriological examination of milk, water, and ice cream is carried out by Dr. Rickards and his staff in the Department of Pathology at the Royal Lancaster Infirmary. Specimens of faeces, nose and throat swabs, blood, etc., from individual patients, and samples of suspect food are also sent to this laboratory for examination, and I am indebted to Dr. Rickards for numerous laboratory reports and much helpful advice in connection with epidemiological investigations. A new Public Health Laboratory has been established at the Preston Royal Infirmary to which all specimens for bacteriological examination will be sent in the future.

The chemical analysis of water, as well as of milk and foodstuffs taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, is performed by the County Analyst, Dr. Walker, whose willing co-operation is also appreciated.

## **Nursing Homes**

The following nursing homes in Lancaster and district are registered with the County Council, under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Westhaven Nursing Home, 2/3, Laurel Bank, Lancaster.  
Beds : 10 medical.

Caton Green Nursing Home, Caton Green, nr. Lancaster.  
Beds : 27 medical, 5 surgical.

## **Co-ordination of Health Services**

The structure of the National Health Service, with responsibilities shared by separate authorities, renders it essential that there should be effective arrangements for securing integration. Locally this is ensured by cross representation on committees and by liaison between officers of the different services. Co-ordination of the school health service, the other health services of the County Council and the health services administered by the City Council, is facilitated by reason of the fact that your Medical Officer of Health acts also as Divisional Medical Officer and School Medical Officer. Co-operation with local general practitioners is secured by frequent exchange of information in relation to infectious diseases, housing, domiciliary nursing services, welfare of aged and handicapped persons, etc. There is close liaison also with all local hospitals, and I am grateful to the administrative, medical, and nursing staffs for much useful information supplied in connection with the after-care of discharged patients. Every effort is made also to co-operate with the numerous voluntary organisations, which play such a useful part in filling the gaps still apparent in the National Health Service.





SECTION “ C ”

**Prevalence and Control over  
Infectious and Other Diseases**

## PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

In 1958 the number of cases of infectious diseases notified by medical practitioners totalled 224. This was the lowest number ever recorded in the City, the decrease being due to a markedly lower incidence of measles and whooping cough.

Detailed figures relating to the various diseases will be found on page 29, but the following summary shows the comparative incidence of the principal infectious diseases over the past seven years.

	Average of 5 years 1952-1956	1957	1958
Scarlet Fever ... ..	74	33	46
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	113	130	10
Measles ... ..	325	623	37
Pneumonia ... ..	31	35	15
Tuberculosis ... ..	53	40	19
Poliomyelitis ... ..	2	1	—
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever ... ..	2	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	61	78	89
Food Poisoning ... ..	47	8	6
Other Diseases ... ..	12	16	2
<b>TOTAL ... ..</b>	<b>720</b>	<b>964</b>	<b>224</b>

### Measles

This common disease of childhood continues to manifest periodic exacerbations. Following the 337 cases recorded in 1955 the number decreased to 108 in 1956, rising again to 623 in 1957 and this in turn being succeeded by a marked decline to 37 cases in 1958. The annual average for the years 1952—1956 was 325.

### Whooping Cough

The 10 cases of whooping cough notified during 1958 represented a decrease of 120 on the total for the previous year. It is hoped that eventually, with increased acceptance of whooping cough vaccine, this disease will become modified or controlled.

Diphtheria

The last case of diphtheria in Lancaster occurred in 1948. Memories of this once virulent and often fatal disease are fading, and it is becoming increasingly difficult to maintain an adequate level of immunity in the population because far too many young parents fail to ensure that their children are protected by active immunisation.

Immunisation is a free service, available either from the family doctor, through school clinics, or at child welfare centres.

Under the immunisation scheme facilities are provided for protection against diphtheria, whooping cough, and tetanus, whereby inoculations may be given against diphtheria or whooping cough separately, or together, or in further combination with protection against tetanus. The following table shows the number of Lancaster children immunised during 1956—1958 against each of these three diseases.

LANCASTER CITY—IMMUNISATION CARRIED OUT  
1956, 1957, and 1958

Number of individuals who completed a full course of primary immunisation										Number of individuals who were given a re-inforcement injection		
Age Groups	Diphtheria			Whooping Cough			Tetanus			Diphtheria	Wh'p'g Cough	Tetanus
	0—4	5—14	Total	0—4	5—14	Total	0—4	5—14	Total	All ages	All ages	All ages
1956...	430	32	462	408	3	411	101	—	101	968	9	6
1957...	445	36	481	423	4	427	330	4	334	752	9	5
1958...	642	47	689	633	14	647	591	12	603	1,059	13	10

## **Poliomyelitis**

For the first time since 1953 no cases of acute poliomyelitis occurred within the City during 1958 and it is reasonable to assume that this happy state of affairs can be ascribed to the protection afforded by vaccination which commenced in the latter half of 1956. As supplies of vaccine have become more plentiful so progress with the vaccination programme has improved as shown by the following figures of Lancaster children to whom two doses of the vaccine have been given :—

1956—280; 1957—1,889; 1958—3,580.

## **Dysentery**

This particular bowel infection is difficult to differentiate clinically from other forms of diarrhoea, and it is doubtful whether the cases notified to the Public Health Department do, in fact, represent its true incidence, especially as many cases occur in which symptoms are slight. In adults the disease is often more of a nuisance than a danger.

During the year, 89 cases were notified compared with 78 in 1957 and 64 in 1955. Over half the cases occurred in mental hospitals. The causal agent was identified as Sh. Sonnei in the majority, but Sh. Flexner appeared in a number of institutional cases.

## **Food Poisoning**

Six cases of food poisoning were notified but in addition 5 other cases were ascertained in the course of investigations. There was one family outbreak in which the mother and 5 children became ill whilst the husband and 3 other children escaped, and it was suspected but not proved that boiled ham was the food responsible for the infection.

The second outbreak occurred in a mental hospital in which 4 cases were notified within a fortnight but no food handlers were involved. In addition, one single case was discovered in a student nurse working at the hospital.

In all the cases investigated the infection was due to the same organism, *S. typhi murium*, by far the commonest food poisoning agent in this country.



CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) NOTIFIED DURING 1958

DISEASE	AGE PERIOD — YEARS											Cases Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
	0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	25-	45-	65- & over	Age unknown	Total
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	—	—	2	4	5	32	3	—	—	—	—	—	46
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles (excluding Rubella) ... ..	4	5	6	4	5	12	—	—	1	—	—	—	37
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	2	2	1	—	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	10
Acute Pneumonia (Primary and Influenzal) ... ..	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	10	—	15
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis—Paralytic ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
„ „ Non-Paralytic ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis—Infective ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
„ „ Post Infective ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	3	1	3	6	2	28	11	3	32	—	—	—	89
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
Malaria (contracted in England and Wales) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria (contracted abroad) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	3	—	6
Total ... ..	7	8	15	15	12	76	15	4	36	4	13	—	205
													14
													—

Tuberculosis

The number of new cases of respiratory tuberculosis notified in 1958 was 17, compared with 34 in the previous year. Over the preceding 10 years notified cases averaged 47.2 per annum, and in 1915 when records first started in the City the annual incidence was about 120.

In 1958 there were 2 cases of non-respiratory tuberculosis compared with 6 in 1957 and an average of 7.9 for the period 1948-57.

For all forms of tuberculosis, therefore, notifications totalled 19, against 40 in the previous year, and an average annual incidence of 55.1 for the period 1948-57.

Comparative figures are given below.

Year	New Cases Notified		
	Respiratory	Non-respiratory	Total
1958	17	2	19
1957	34	6	40
1956	35	2	37
1955	43	9	52
1954	33	8	41
1953	58	6	64
1952	48	6	54
1951	57	12	69
1950	46	9	55
1949	52	10	62
1948	66	11	77
Total ...	472	79	551
Aver'ge 10 yrs 1948-57 ...	47.2	7.9	55.1

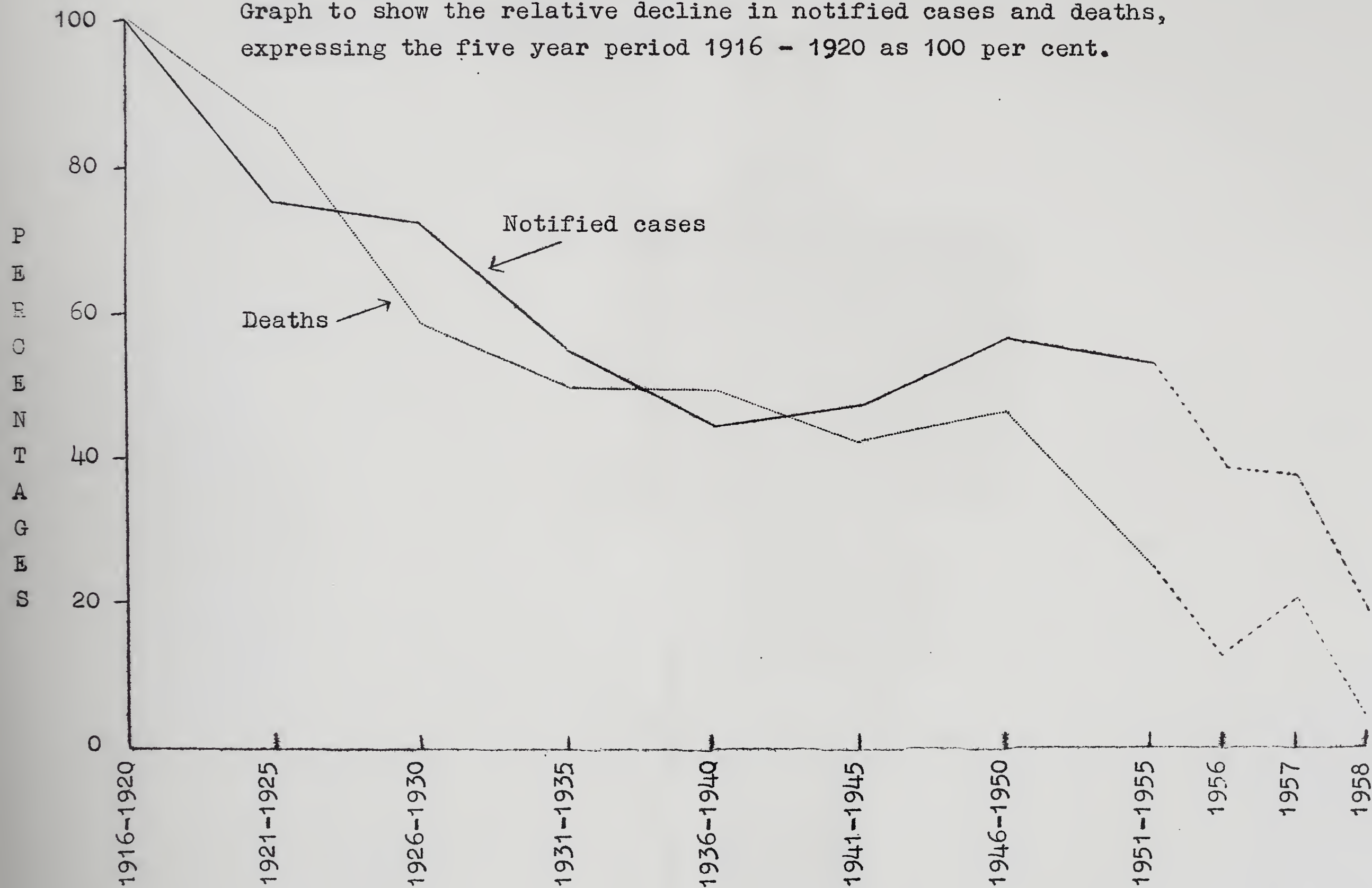
The following table gives a summary of the known cases of tuberculosis in the City at 31st December, 1958.

		Males	Females	Total
Respiratory ...	...	160	93	253
Non-respiratory	...	13	20	33
		173	113	286



# R E S P I R A T O R Y   T U B E R C U L O S I S

Graph to show the relative decline in notified cases and deaths, expressing the five year period 1916 - 1920 as 100 per cent.





## Mortality from Tuberculosis

The table below shows the number of deaths registered together with the corresponding death rates during 1958 and the preceding decennial period.

Year	Respiratory Tuberculosis		Non-respiratory Tuberculosis		All forms	
	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 pop'n.	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 pop'n.	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 pop'n.
1958	2	0.04	—	—	2	0.04
1957	10	0.16	2	0.04	12	0.24
1956	6	0.12	—	—	6	0.12
1955	20	0.40	1	0.02	21	0.42
1954	8	0.16	2	0.04	10	0.20
1953	7	0.14	2	0.04	9	0.18
1952	7	0.14	1	0.02	8	0.16
1951	19	0.37	1	0.02	20	0.39
1950	23	0.44	3	0.06	26	0.50
1949	14	0.27	1	0.02	15	0.29
1948	22	0.44	3	0.06	25	0.50
Average of 10 years 1948-57	13.6	0.26	1.6	0.03	15.2	0.30

In 1958 there were only 2 deaths from respiratory tuberculosis and none from other forms of the disease, compared with 10 and 2 deaths respectively in the previous year. The death rate from respiratory tuberculosis at 0.04 per 1,000 population was the lowest ever recorded in the City. The graph overleaf shows the decline in the number of cases notified and in the number of deaths relative to the five year period 1916-1920.

Some experts have forecast that tuberculosis may be eradicated within the next two or three decades. Certainly the disease can, with the aid of modern drugs and methods of treatment, be regarded much more as a curable condition but, possibly largely because of this, the fall in the notification rate or incidence continues to lag behind the fall in the death rate. Despite the fact that increasing attention is now being given to the discovery of early cases by mass miniature radiography, tuberculin testing, etc., there are many people in the community, especially elderly people, whose disease has not been detected and who continue to spread the infection. In 1957 just over 24 per cent. of the total deaths from tuberculosis in the Administrative County escaped statutory notification as tuberculosis during life. Tuberculosis must therefore continue to be regarded as an important communicable disease, and the old established measures directed to its prevention and control must still be pursued as vigorously as newer measures such as vaccination and mass radiography.

During the year, the Chest Physician carried out B.C.G. vaccination on 81 infants and children in Lancaster, who were at risk from close contact with infectious cases. In addition, school medical officers vaccinated 205 school leavers in Lancaster schools, after Mantoux tests had been carried out.



SECTION "D"

Sanitary Circumstances  
of the City

Annual Report of the  
Chief Public Health Inspector

F. SHAW, D.P.A., F.R.S.H.



CITY OF LANCASTER—ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES  
Under the Direction of the Chief Public Health Inspector

HOUSING  INSPECTION OF HOUSES Preparation of reports on general housing conditions in the city.  REPAIR OF HOUSES Preparation of specifications and schedules of costs. Supervision of works. Execution of works in default of owners.  CLEARANCE, ETC. OF UNFIT HOUSES Indication of areas needing re-planning and re-development. Clearance of the buildings from such areas.  Demolition of single houses not included in areas. Closure of dwelling which it is not practicable to demolish.  VALUATION OF HOUSES. Valuation of houses to ascertain whether they are capable of repair at reasonable cost, etc. Estimation of future life of houses.  OVERCROWDING. Ascertainment and abatement of overcrowding.  COMMON LODGING HOUSES. Inspection and Registration. HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS. Inspection and Supervision.  REHOUSING. Investigation into special housing needs which call for priority. Removals in connection with rehousing. Fumigation of household effects with HCN, when necessary.	RATS AND MICE  Destruction and infestation prevention.  INSECT, ETC., PESTS  Destruction and control.  UPHOLSTERY, ETC., FILLINGS  Supervision of premises where upholstery fillings are made or stored or used Sampling such fillings for examination as to cleanliness.	MILK AND DAIRIES  Supervision of distribution of milk. Inspection of dairies.  SAMPLING OF MILK FOR:  Adulteration. Keeping quality. Tubercle bacilli. Brucella Abortus.  PRE-LICENSING INSPECTION OF:  Pasteurising plants. Sterilising plants. Bottling establishments. Routine inspection of plants and premises.	GENERAL SANITATION  Investigation into complaints. Abatement of nuisances. Water supplies (purity and sufficiency of).  Purity of swimming bath water. Inspection of camping sites. Drainage.  Removals of accumulations of waste and offensive matter. RIVERS AND WATERCOURSES Investigation into pollution. SEWAGE DISPOSAL Sewage disposal from isolated buildings not connected to the town's sewerage system.
FOOD AND DRUGS  EXAMINATION AND SAMPLING  EXAMINATION OF:  Meat at time of slaughter. Meat in butchers' shops, etc. Food of all kinds in shops, stores, warehouses, etc. Supervision of the disposal of food condemned as unfit.  SAMPLING OF:  Food and Drugs for analysis. Foods for bacteriological exam.  HYGIENE OF FOOD PREMISES  Inspection of all premises used for the preparation, storage, handling and sale of food. Advice on layout, design and construction of food premises. Advice on equipment.	INSPECTION OF  OTHER PREMISES, e.g.:  Factories. Building and civil engineering sites. Workplaces. Shops. Offices. Places of Entertainment. Offensive Trade premises. Schools.	NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT  Burial of the Dead. Arrangement for care of people living alone under insanitary conditions.  ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION  Inspection of boiler, etc., plants. Observation of smoke from chimneys. Investigations generally into atmospheric pollution.	INFECTIOUS DISEASES  Investigations into causes of spread. Disinfection of premises and articles.  FOOD-BORNE INFECTIONS  Investigations into causes. Collection of specimens for exam.  PET ANIMALS  Inspection of pet animal shops.  PORT HEALTH  Inspection of crew's accommodation. Ship drinking water supplies. Rat and vermin destruction. Enquiries re infectious diseases and sickness amongst crews. Supervision of shellfish layings and collection grounds.



TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF  
THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me pleasure to submit my report for the year 1958. This report follows in form those of previous years, but the trends and matters which require special consideration are different.

Housing is still a matter calling for your special consideration. Not only is it necessary from time to time to review the housing needs of the City, but also the trends and public preferences in this field. These are discussed in some detail on pages 50 to 54.

It will be seen that during the decade 1948-58 considerable progress was made in meeting the shortage of dwellings which existed at the end of the 1939-45 War. The housing survey of 1948 revealed, for example, that at the time 14.5% of dwellings in the City were occupied by more than one household. From a sample survey made in July, 1958, it has been estimated that the figure has now fallen to about 2%.

In the same period, privately owned tenanted houses fell from 42.33% of the total houses in the City to 25%, Council owned houses increased from 16.65% to 23%, and the owner-occupied houses from 39.75% to 50%. It would seem, therefore, that if these trends continue during the next 10 to 15 years at about the same rate, private landlords of house property in Lancaster will become extinct or nearly so, and occupiers of houses will either be Council tenants or owner-occupiers. The division is not following an income group pattern; the people buying houses are not all in the higher income group, nor vice versa. These trends if they continue are likely to have important social and economic implications and, in my opinion, ought to be studied at an early date.

I am indebted to Mr. J. B. Cullingworth, of Manchester University, for the information derived from the 1958 sample survey.

Some emphasis needs to be given to the measures necessary to ensure a cleaner air. It has been reliably estimated that about 50% of air pollution in this country is caused by domestic fires and, therefore, the most effective remedy is the establishment of smoke control areas.

To estimate public reaction to the use of smokeless fuels two sample surveys were made, one on the Hala Estate and the other on Ridge Estate. These housing estates were chosen because they are post 1945 and all the houses have combustion appliances designed for the combustion of smokeless fuels. Fuller information obtained from the surveys is given on pages 41 to 46.

It will be seen that coal was being burned on Ridge Estate in 95% of the houses visited, and in 90% on Hala Estate.

In 1955 the Central Office of Information published a report of an inquiry made on a national level into domestic heating arrangements. I am indebted to Mr. P. G. Gray, the Author, for a copy of the report. Where the information derived from the Lancaster survey is capable of comparison with that from the national survey, the national figures have been given in this report alongside the Lancaster figures. In the country as a whole in 1955 coal was being burned only in 44% of post-war Council houses. Lancaster Corporation tenants seem much more reluctant to stop burning coal than the tenants of post 1945 Council houses generally throughout the country. The giving of information and advice to tenants would help to change this position. It would not be wise, in my opinion, to make Smoke Control Orders involving the older houses in the City until the Council's post 1945 housing estates are, for all practical purposes, smokeless.

The effect of tuberculin testing of cattle on the amount of meat condemned for tuberculosis is discussed on page 63.

In 1928 about four whole carcasses out of every 100 carcasses of beef killed at the Lancaster Abattoir had to be condemned because of generalised tuberculosis. In 1958 only one whole carcase in every 1,000 carcasses was condemned for this reason.

Since the middle of 1954, when meat control ended, to the end of 1958, the total number of animals killed at the Lancaster Abattoir has steadily increased, but the percentage of animals found to be affected with tuberculosis has fallen year by year with the exception of 1958 when there was a slight increase over the previous year.

In 1955, the first full year after the decontrol of meat, 6.8% of cattle and calves killed at the Lancaster Abattoir were found to be affected in some degree with tuberculosis. By 1957 only 3.3% were so affected, but in 1958 the figure rose slightly to 3.8%.

I hope, Ladies and Gentlemen, you will find the report interesting.

I sincerely acknowledge the loyal support and co-operation of the whole staff of the Department.

Yours faithfully,

F. SHAW,  
*Chief Public Health Inspector.*

## WORK OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

The following tables show the total number of premises visited during the year, the defects or nuisances found and abated, the number of notices served, and the types of inspections and visits made, excluding housing.

Statistical and other information concerning housing conditions is given on pages 50 to 57.

### Public Health Inspections during 1958

No. of premises visited, 12,916. Defects or nuisances—No. discovered, 1,123; No. abated, 1,996. No. of notices served—Informal, 646; Statutory, 84; Legal proceedings, Nil.

### Types of Inspections and Visits other than Housing

Atmospheric pollution	...	...	...	...	...	...	388
Rodent infestation	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
Infectious disease enquiries	...	...	...	...	...	...	61
Food inspection	...	...	...	...	...	...	177
Miscellaneous Public Health inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	477
Miscellaneous visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,567
Offensive trade premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Butchers' shops and stores	...	...	...	...	...	...	102
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	140
Ice cream premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	115
Fish fryers' premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	85
Food preparing premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	118
Other food premises, general	...	...	...	...	...	...	184
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Public Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Markets	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Restaurants	...	...	...	...	...	...	98
Shops (Shops Act)	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
Theatres, cinemas, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	805
Snack bars, soda fountains, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	108
Combustion plants	...	...	...	...	...	...	70
Food vans and Milk vehicles	...	...	...	...	...	...	136
School Meals Service	...	...	...	...	...	...	44
Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Food Stalls	...	...	...	...	...	...	471
Verminous Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

### Complaints Received

	<i>Nature of Complaint</i>						<i>Number</i>
Unsatisfactory housing conditions	.	...	...	...	...	...	55
Defective fireplaces	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Defective rainwater pipes	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Defective windows	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective chimneys	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Defective doors	...	...	...	...	...	...	2



Defective plasterwork	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective eavesgutters	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Defective roofs	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Defective sinks	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Defective ceilings	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Defective walls	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Defective waterclosets	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Burst water pipes	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Dampness	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Choked drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	77
Flooding	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Defective dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Accumulations of refuse	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Dirty premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Vermin	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Rats	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Mice	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Insect pests	...	...	...	...	...	...	70
Foul and obnoxious odours	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Smoke nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Nuisances from animals	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	20

**Improvements and Repairs Effected**  
**Following Action by the Public Health Inspectors.**

**Food Premises**

Walls decorated	...	...	...	...	...	...	66
Ceilings decorated	...	...	...	...	...	...	43
Hot water service provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	92
Sinks provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Ventilation improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Lighting improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	77
Floors recovered	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
Counter surfaces repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Protective screens provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Soap and towels provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	92
First-aid equipment provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Notices provided re washing of hands	...	...	...	...	...	...	106
Washbasins provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	86
Accommodation for clothing provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
New equipment provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Provision of int. vent. space	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Cleanliness improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Provision of dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Exclusion of Animals	...	...	...	...	...	...	10

### **Drainage, Sanitary Accommodation, etc.**

Drains cleared from obstruction ... ..	46
Public sewers cleared from obstruction ... ..	8
Drains re-laid or repaired ... ..	21
Sewers re-laid or repaired ... ..	3
Soil pipes, waste pipes, etc., repaired or renewed ... ..	26

### **Water Closets**

W.C. compartments re-built or repaired ... ..	25
W.C. basins renewed ... ..	20
W.C. cisterns renewed or repaired ... ..	10

### **Various**

Offensive accumulations removed ... ..	14
Dustbins renewed ... ..	18
Miscellaneous ... ..	29

### **Execution of Work by City Council in Default of Persons upon whom Notices were Served**

In 3 instances during the year the City Health Department was called upon to execute works in the default of persons upon whom statutory notices had been served. In all cases the City Council made orders for the collection of rents until such times as the costs will be recovered. The works carried out, with the costs, were as follows :—

<i>Address</i>	<i>Work</i>	<i>Cost</i>		
		£	s.	d.
57, Bulk Road	Works necessary to make the house fit under the Housing Act	21	10	10
69, Bulk Road	„ „	13	19	0
71, Bulk Road	„ „	16	9	10

### **Shops (Shops Act, 1950, Section 38)**

There are in the City about 900 shop premises of all descriptions. Many of them are one-man businesses. 53 of those where assistants are employed were inspected during the course of the year.

### **Camping Sites (other than Military)**

Although no camping sites were licensed during the year the inspectors made 56 visits to sites which were either used for periods less than 42 consecutive days or were in use illegally. Most were in connection with unauthorised use of corporation land.

### **Cleaner Air**

#### **Measures taken to deal with Air Pollution and the Clean Air Act, 1956**

When the Clean Air Act came into force on the 1st December, 1956, the operation of some of its provisions was temporarily suspended. These provisions came into force on the 1st June, 1958. With them also came into operation Regulations prescribing the permitted periods for the emission of dark smoke.



During the year, four formal notifications of the intention to install new combustion plants were received and two of these involved the erection of new chimneys. In addition to the formal notifications, an application was received for informal observations, in principle, of a proposed new boiler plant. One of the formal notifications related to the installation of a water tube boiler with a rated capacity of 80,000 lbs. of water evaporated per hour. Although some modification to the proposals was requested, in no case was it necessary to refuse approval.

In March, 1958, your Committee received a report on the possibility of establishing Smoke Control Areas in Lancaster. The report outlined a scheme for making the whole City subject to Smoke Control Orders within a period of 14 years, and contained a map of the City coloured to show the areas to be subject to a Smoke Control Order each year. The estimated rate charge for the scheme was £6,000 per annum. As a first step the City Council decided to establish a Smoke Control Area in the City centre, and the Minister gave his preliminary approval to the proposal.

It has been fairly reliably estimated by a number of people and bodies, including the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, that something like 50% of smoke in towns is emitted from domestic chimneys and, therefore, at the present time, the most effective way of dealing with air pollution is by Smoke Control Orders. The general effect of such an Order is to prohibit within the Smoke Control Area the burning of ordinary bituminous coal. This means, unless in any case exemption is granted, that householders, besides other users of fuel, can only burn either a solid smokeless fuel, such as coke, etc., or gas, electricity or oil. The prohibition on the burning of coal will interfere with long established practice and habits, and householders may, at the beginning at least, need to be weaned from the use of coal.

To estimate public reaction in Lancaster to Smoke Control Orders and to ascertain householders' opinions regarding the present methods of heating houses and the choice of fuels, two sample surveys were made, one on the Hala Estate and the other on Ridge Estate. These housing estates were chosen because all the houses are of post 1945 design and construction, and contain modern combustion appliances which are suitable for burning smokeless fuels.

The surveys were planned to ascertain what percentage of tenants of post 1945 Council dwellings were satisfied with the heating arrangements, how many were using smokeless fuels, and comparative costs of heating in different circumstances, etc. It was appreciated that tenants' dissatisfaction of the heating arrangements would not necessarily mean that they were inadequate. For example, dissatisfaction might be due to the tenant not knowing how to operate the appliances correctly, or to the use of unsuitable fuels. Nevertheless, it was thought that information about the amount of dissatisfaction among the tenants, information about the use of smokeless fuels, etc., used, and tenants' reaction to the use of smokeless fuels would be helpful in deciding future policy.

The information collected from the surveys is given in the tables which follow.

In 1955 the Central Office of Information published a report of an inquiry made on a national level into domestic heating arrangements in this country, and I am indebted to Mr. P. G. Gray, the author of the report, for a copy of it. Where it has been possible to make comparisons between the results of the two investigations, the percentage for the country as a whole has been given in the tables alongside the percentage for Lancaster City.

Survey of Domestic Heating in Post 1945 Houses

HALA ESTATE

Total number of dwellings on Estate	...	...	...	...	406
Number of dwellings visited	...	...	...	...	90
Dwellings visited as percentage of dwellings on Estate	...				22.1%

Satisfaction and Dissatisfaction with Heating Arrangements in Dwellings

Number of satisfied tenants	...	...	...	...	...	50
Number of satisfied tenants as percentage of tenants visited						55.6%
Number of dissatisfied tenants	...	...	...	...	...	40
Number of dissatisfied tenants as percentage of tenants visited						44.4%

Reasons for dissatisfaction					Number	Percentage dwellings visited
(a) Only part of house warmed	...	...	...		18	20
(b) Cold house (as a whole)	...	...	...		10	11
(c) Down-draught	...	...	...	...	12	13

Fuels Used—Amounts, Costs, Tenants’ Observations, etc.

A.—Houses with single open fire—Total No. 52. % of houses visited—57.8%.

Fire is kept alight				No. of dwellings	Percentage of tenants with single open fire only		Percentage country as a whole
(i) All day	...	...	...	39	...	75	79
(ii) Part of day only	...	...	...	13	...	25	21

Average Amount of Fuel used and Cost per Month

Fire kept alight		No. of dwellings	Average amount of fuel per month		Percentage of tenants with single open fire only	Average monthly cost			
			Coal	Coal/Coke 50/50		£	s.	d.	
			Cwts.	Cwts.					
(i)	All day	...	33	6	—	63	2	8	0
	All day	...	6	—	7	12	2	18	0
(ii)	Part of day only		13	6½	—	25	2	10	6

B.—Houses with single open fire and independent boiler. Total No. 36.  
 % of houses visited—40%.

<i>Open fire kept alight</i>	<i>No. of dwellings</i>	<i>Percentage with open fire and independent boiler</i>	<i>Percentage country as a whole</i>
(i) All day ... ..	17	47	59
(ii) Part of day only ... ..	19	53	41

**Average Amount of Fuel used for Open Fire and Independent Boiler together, and Cost per Month**

<i>Open fire kept alight</i>	<i>No. of dwellings</i>	<i>Coal</i>	<i>Coke</i>	<i>Coalite / Coke 50/50</i>	<i>Cost</i>
		<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>
(i) All day ... ..	16	5	3¾	—	3 12 0
All day ... ..	1	—	—	8½	4 5 0
(ii) Part of day only ... ..	19	4¼	3¼	—	3 2 0

**C.—Gas Fire and Independent Boiler**

<i>Period of use</i>	<i>No. of dwellings</i>	<i>Amount of fuel burned per month</i>	<i>Total cost per month</i>
			<i>£ s. d.</i>
(ii) Both fires part of day only ... ..	1	4 cwts. Coke	1 14 6
		Gas	2 8 0
		Total cost	£4 2 6

**D.—Electric Fires Only**

<i>Period of use</i>	<i>No. of dwellings</i>	<i>Approx. cost of electricity for heating</i>	<i>Total cost of electricity per month</i>
		<i>£ s. d.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>
(i) All day ... ..	1	2 6 8	2 19 2

N.B.—In this case the tenant had sealed off the chimney openings and this would undoubtedly contribute to the low cost.

**Type of Fuels Burned on Main Living Room Fire**

	<i>No. of dwellings</i>	<i>Percentage of dwellings visited</i>	<i>Percentage country as a whole</i>
Coal only ... ..	81	90	44
Coal and Coke ... ..	6	7	43
Coke only ... ..	—	—	9
Coal and other smokeless ... ..	—	—	2
Coke and other smokeless ... ..	1	1	—
Gas or electricity ... ..	2	2	1

**Those burning at all**

Coal ... ..	87	97	90
Coke ... ..	17	19	53
Other smokeless (1 gas, 1 electricity, 1 Coalite) ... ..	3	3	4



E.—Paraffin Stoves

Number of dwellings where paraffin stoves in regular use as additional heating—30. As percentage of houses visited—33.3%. Average consumption of paraffin per week, 2½ gallons—cost 5/-.

Number of Oil Stoves, Gas and Electric Fires used as

Additional Heating			Oil Stoves			Electric Fires		
<i>No. used</i>			<i>No. of dwellings</i>	<i>% of dwellings visited</i>	<i>% country as a whole</i>	<i>No. of dwellings</i>	<i>% of dwellings visited</i>	<i>% country as a whole</i>
None	...	...	60	67	79	68	76	45
One	...	...	28	31	19	19	21	35
Two	...	...	2	2	2	3	3	11

Opinions of Tenants who were using Solid Smokeless Fuel

Eight tenants who claimed they had been forced to use smokeless fuel because of drowndrought gave the following observations on coke:—  
(a) Very hot fire; (b) Excellent hot water; (c) Needs plenty of draught; (d) Prefer coal mixed with it.

Objections of Tenants who had at sometime tried coke but did not like it

				<i>No.</i>		<i>As % of dwellings visited</i>	<i>% of country as a whole</i>
Spits out	...	...	...	16	...	17.8	6
Fumes	...	...	...	12	...	13.3	28
Burns dead	...	...	...	8	...	8.9	47
Too expensive	...	...	...	5	...	5.5	8
Chokes the fire	...	...	...	3	...	3.3	2
Miscellaneous reasons	...	...	...	17	...	18.9	2
Dirty	...	...	...	2	...	2.2	1

RIDGE ESTATE

Total number of dwellings on Estate (at time of Survey)	...	620
Number of dwellings visited	...	110
Dwellings visited as percentage of dwellings on Estate	...	17.7%

Satisfaction or Dissatisfaction with Heating Arrangements in Dwellings

Number of satisfied tenants	...	65
Number of satisfied tenants as percentage of tenants visited	...	59.1%
Number of dissatisfied tenants	...	45
Number of dissatisfied tenants as percentage of tenants visited	...	40.9%



<i>Reasons for dissatisfaction</i>	<i>Number of dwellings visited</i>	<i>Percentage of dwellings visited</i>
(a) Only part of house warmed ... ..	13	12
(b) Cold house (as a whole) ... ..	13	12
(c) Down-draught ... ..	21	19

N.B.—Two of the dissatisfied tenants gave two reasons for their dissatisfaction.

**Fuels Used—Amounts, Costs, Tenants’ Observations, etc.**

A.—Houses with single open fire—Total No. 104. %of houses visited—94.5%.

<i>Fire is kept alight</i>	<i>No. of dwellings</i>	<i>Percentage of tenants with single open fire only</i>	<i>Percentage country as a whole</i>
(i) All day ... ..	92	89	79
(ii) Part day only ... ..	12	11	21

**Average Amount of Fuel used and Cost per Month**

<i>Periods used</i>	<i>No. of dwellings</i>	<i>Coal</i>	<i>Coal-ite</i>	<i>Coke</i>	<i>Coalite/Coal 50/50</i>	<i>Coal/Coke 50/50</i>	<i>% of tenants with S.O.F. only</i>	<i>cost</i>		
		<i>cwts.</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>cwts.</i>		£	s.	d.
(i)										
All day	88	5½	—	—	—	—	85	2	2	8
All day	1	—	—	—	—	6	1	2	9	6
All day	1	—	—	—	9	—	1	4	5	6
All day	1	—	—	5½	—	—	1	2	6	9
All day	1	—	9½	—	—	—	1	5	4	6
(ii)										
Part of day only	12	4¾	—	—	—	—	11	1	18	0

B.—Houses with single open fire and independent boiler—Total No. 5. % of houses visited—4.5%.

<i>Open fire kept alight</i>	<i>No. of dwellings</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>% country as a whole</i>
(ii) Part of day only ... ..	4	80	59
(i) All day ... ..	1	20	41

**Approximate Amount of Fuel used for Open Fire and Independent Boiler together, and Cost per Month**

<i>Open fire kept alight</i>	<i>No. of dwellings</i>	<i>Coal</i>	<i>Coke</i>	<i>Cost</i>		
		<i>cwts.</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	£	s.	d.
(ii) Part of day only ... ..	4	3	4	2	18	0
(i) All day ... ..	1	5	5½	4	7	0

**C.—Gas Fires only**

<i>Period used</i>	<i>No. of dwellings</i>	<i>Cost</i>	<i>% of houses visited</i>
(ii) Part day only ... ..	1	Unable to state	1

Types of Fuels Burned on Main Living Room Fire

						<i>No. of dwellings</i>	<i>% of dwellings visited</i>	<i>% of country as a whole</i>
Coal only	...	...	...	...	...	105	95	44
Coal and Coke	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	43
Coke only	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	9
Coal and other smokeless			...	...	...	1	1	2
Coke and other smokeless			...	...	...	—	—	—
Gas or electricity	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1
Coalite only	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1

Those burning at all

Coal	...	...	...	...	...	107	96	90
Coke	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	53
Other smokeless (1 gas, 1 Coalite)	...					2	2	4

D.—Paraffin Stoves

Number of dwellings where paraffin stoves are in regular use as additional heating—49. Average consumption of paraffin per week— $2\frac{3}{4}$  gallons—5/6d. Percentage of houses visited—44.5%.

Number of Oil Stoves, Gas and Electric Fires used as Additional Heating

Oil Stoves

<i>No. used</i>						<i>No. of dwellings</i>	<i>% of dwellings visited</i>	<i>% of country as a whole</i>
None	...	...	...	...	64	...	58	79
One	...	...	...	...	43	...	39	19
Two	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	2
Three	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	—

Electric Fires

None	...	...	...	...	87	...	79	36
One	...	...	...	...	22	...	20	50
Two	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	11
Three	...	...	...	...	—	...	—	2

Gas Fires

None	...	...	...	...	108	...	98	88
One	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	9
Two	...	...	...	...	—	...	—	2
Three	...	...	...	...	—	...	—	1

Opinions of Tenants who were using Solid Smokeless Fuel

Four tenants who claimed they had been forced to use solid smokeless fuel because of downdrought gave the following observations on it:—

- (a) Like it;    (b) Very hot fire;    (c) Excellent hot water;
- (d) Needs plenty of draught;    (e) Prefer coal mixed with it.

Objections of Tenants who had at sometime tried coke but did not like it

	Number				% of dwellings visited		% of country as a whole	
Spits out ...	...	...	...	2	...	1.8	...	6
Fumes ...	...	...	...	22	...	20.0	...	28
Burns dead ...	...	...	...	7	...	6.4	...	47
Too expensive ...	...	...	...	16	...	14.5	...	8
Chokes the fire ...	...	...	...	3	...	2.7	...	2
Miscellaneous reasons ...	...	...	...	9	...	8.2	...	2
Dirty ...	...	...	...	—	...	—	...	1
Difficult to burn ...	...	...	...	12	...	10.9	...	—

It will be seen from the tables above that in the country as a whole in 1955 coal was being burned only in 44% of post war Council houses, whereas, for example, on Ridge Estate in 95% of the houses visited coal was being burned in spite of the fact that the combustion appliances in these houses are designed to burn solid smokeless fuel. Lancaster Council tenants seem to be much more reluctant to stop burning coal than the tenants of post 1945 Council houses generally throughout the country. The giving of information and advice to tenants on the post 1945 estates would help to change the position. Post 1945 Council estates ought to be made smokeless at an early date. This should involve no expenditure by the Council.

The measures taken during the year to deal with air pollution from combustion plants were :—

- (a) The observation of factory chimneys;
- (b) inspection of combustion plants for the purpose of ascertaining the causes of smoke nuisances and to give advice; and subsequent visits;
- (c) the measurement of the degree of atmospheric pollution in the City.

(a) Observations

During the year your Public Health Inspectors made 124 observations of factory, etc., chimneys. The total time spent on these observations was 61 hours 59 minutes. Of this time the periods during which the various shades of smoke were emitted are shown in the following tables.

*Length of time, in minutes, during observations  
when smoke was emitted from chimneys*

Black	Grey	Little or no smoke	Total
14.12	129.36	3,376.12	3,719



The number of smoke nuisances recorded and action taken were as follows :—

Nuisances Recorded	Verbal Warnings given	Written Notices sent
3	2	—

(b) **Inspections and Visits**

Seventy routine inspections of combustion plants were made during the year.

(c) **Measurement of Air Pollution**

During 1958 the comparative amount of ash, grit and other solid particles deposited in the City from smoke emitted from chimneys was measured as in previous years.

The estimated matter deposited during 1958 calculated in tons per square mile per month from the standard deposit gauges, and the amount of sulphur dioxide in parts per 100 million parts of air, as calculated from the volumetric instruments attached to the smoke filter are given in Table 1 below. Table II gives the comparative average monthly deposit of soot during 1956-1958.

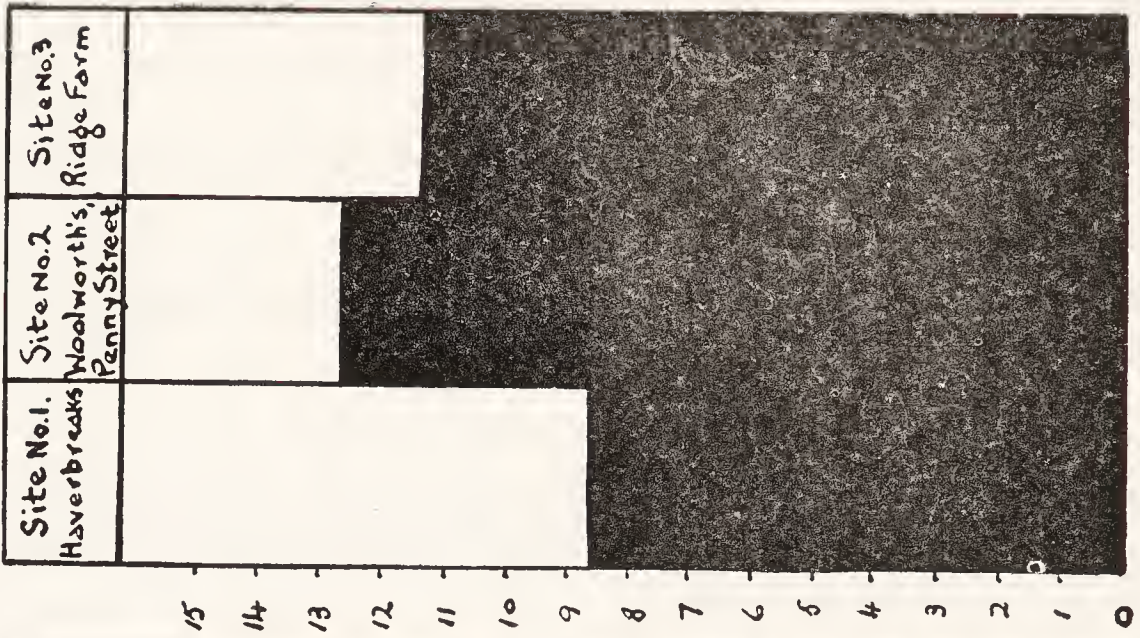
TABLE I.

Month	TOTAL DEPOSITED MATTER (SOOT) Tons per square mile			SULPHUR DIOXIDE parts per 100 mill. parts of air Monthly Average Public Health Offices
	Site No. 1 Haverbreaks	Site No. 2 Woolworths Penny Street	Site No. 5 Moor, Hospital *	
January ... ..	9.90	16.38	—	4.00
February ... ..	7.06	12.16	—	3.53
March ... ..	5.20	9.73	—	3.06
April ... ..	4.79	8.04	—	2.49
May ... ..	8.78	9.33	—	2.03
June ... ..	8.04	10.64	—	1.26
July ... ..	5.77	8.64	—	0.73
August ... ..	5.30	6.14	—	0.72
September ... ..	8.88	13.44	—	0.80
October ... ..	15.88	10.47	—	1.90
November ... ..	4.93	12.29	4.01	4.00
December ... ..	7.40	14.33	6.77	4.00

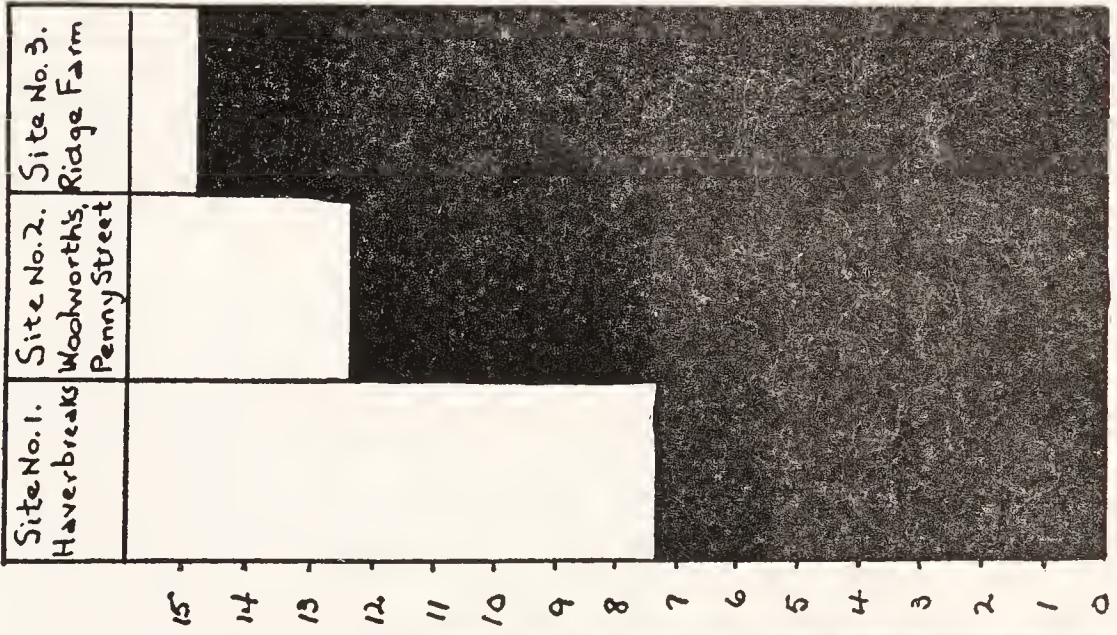
\* Ceased recording because site became unsuitable due to building, etc., operations. The instrument was re-sited and recordings again became available on the 1st November, 1958



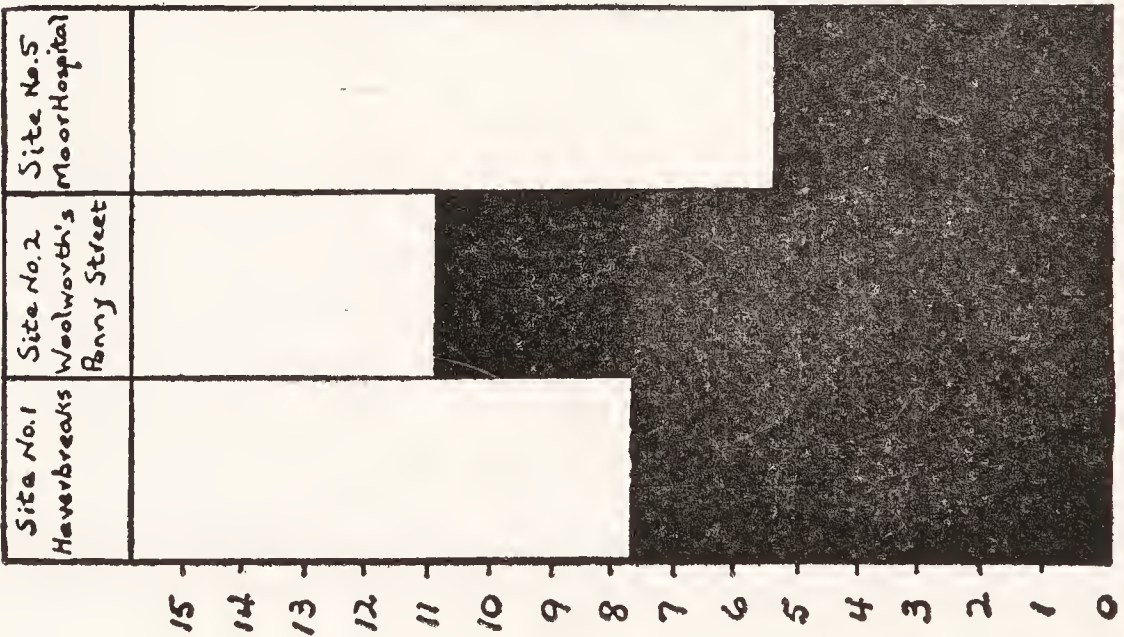
1956



1957



1958



Offensive Trades

Number of premises—4.

Types of offensive trades :—

Fellmongers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Gut Scrapers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Rag and Bone Dealer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

All the offensive trades in the City were, generally speaking, carried on during the year without serious nuisance in spite of difficulties due to obsolete buildings.

Factories Act, 1937

Details of the number of inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors and of the number and type of contraventions found are given in the following tables :—

INSPECTIONS

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Without mechanical power ... ..	32	6	—	—
With mechanical power ...	196	31	5	—
Other premises ... ..	7	7	—	—
Total ... ..	235	44	5	—



## DEFECTS FOUND

	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1) ... ..	4	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2.) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):—					
(a) Insufficient ..	1	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	15	—	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences ... ..	1	—	—	—	—
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>

### Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

#### Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928.

No. of premises in the district in which filling materials are manufactured, used or sold ... ..	5
No. of inspections ... ..	2
No. of samples taken ... ..	3

All samples conformed to Regulations.

## HOUSING CONDITIONS

### General Observations

During 1958 action to clear the Main Street—Ramparts area for redevelopment continued, and Compulsory Purchase Orders were made to acquire land and buildings in the Captain's Row—Lune Street area for purposes of redevelopment. The Compulsory Purchase Orders were confirmed by the Minister without modification.

The two areas referred to will be Lancaster's first large scale redevelopment venture, and in consequence will be watched critically by many people. As with any new venture, there have been differences of opinion concerning the pattern of the proposed redevelopment, but I am sure all well meaning thinking people will agree that the decayed and decaying parts of the City must be redeveloped somehow, and that, because of the need to replace unfit houses, this redevelopment of the areas mentioned should be predominantly in the form of housing.

The division of opinion has largely centred round the question of the height of some of the proposed blocks of flats. If it were possible to disregard the increase in world population, land requirements for food production, and several other important factors, most people would then agree that for Lancaster the redevelopment should take the form of two and three-storey terraces.

The world population and that of Great Britain are, however, both increasing, and changing and rising standards of living require more space not only for houses, but also for schools, playing fields and new roads, etc. Industrial expansion upon which a higher standard of living depends also calls for more space.

As it is not practicable to extend the lateral boundaries of these Islands, we are left with the single expediency of creating space by high building. Although, therefore, a flat in a tall block may not be the ideal home for the majority of Lancastrians, in the light of all the circumstances, it is the most practicable and the next best thing.

The Council's present building plans are more than sufficient to meet the immediate slum clearance programme, and thus all households now living in houses scheduled as unfit may expect to be offered better accommodation within the next two years.

Now that Lancaster's acute post-war housing shortage has been met and the immediate slum clearance programme is well advanced, it is opportune to take a quick overall look at Lancaster's present housing position.

In 1948 when the Lancaster housing survey was completed, 14.5% of dwellings in the City were occupied by more than one household. In July, 1958, i.e., within a decade, this figure had fallen to 2%. This latter figure is based on a sample survey made by the British Market Research Bureau Ltd. on behalf of Manchester University.

In 1948, 32.72% of dwellings in Lancaster had no bath and 34.12% were without a hot water system. By 1958 these figures had fallen to 26% and 20% respectively.



Even allowing for the fact that the 1958 figures are based on a sample survey only, and that in consequence they may not be as accurate as those based on the 100% survey made in 1947-48, an appreciable rise in housing standards in Lancaster during the last decade is very evident. It is probably not an exaggeration to claim that in no other comparable time in our history has such progress in the housing field been made.

The City Council can look back with a degree of satisfaction at the progress made in the provision of new dwellings during the decade 1948-1958, but little progress was made in improving and modernising the older houses which are capable of several years further useful life. The latter is not, however, the fault of the City Council who have always been willing to make the maximum permissible financial grant for the purpose. Landlords have not taken advantage of the improvement grant scheme, but have rather shown a desire to sell rented house property at the earliest convenient time. Lower rented house property has ceased to be a good investment.

The decision of the private landlords to sell their rented houses has accelerated the speed of an important change in our social structure.

In 1948 private landlords owned 42.33% of the houses in the City, the City Council owned 16.65%, and 39.75% were owner-occupied. Ten years later (July, 1958) private landlords owned only 25%, the City Council 23%, and 50% of houses were owner-occupied.

These changes are more significant when Council and private house building rates during the period are compared.

During 1948-58 the City Council built 1,120 permanent dwellings, but in the same period only 331 houses were built in Lancaster for private people. The 6% increase in Council-owned houses is easily explained by Council building, but this is not the case with the 10% increase in owner-occupied houses.

Some of the new owner-occupiers have bought the houses they formerly rented, others have bought old houses with vacant possession, sometimes moving from one old house to another.

Slum clearance is another factor which has contributed to the change. Most of the houses demolished under clearance schemes have been privately owned rented houses.

In addition to movement of population within the City, there has been a small movement of population to new houses built in Morecambe, Caton, and Halton.

Great social changes occurred during the last decade. One of the not so obvious ones was the change in house ownership. The several influences at work in the housing field have resulted in trends towards a new social division, i.e., a division of the citizens of Lancaster into owner-

occupiers and Council tenants. This simple division is not yet complete, but the trends show it might well be within the next 10-15 years. The division is not following an income group pattern. The people buying houses are not all in the higher income group, nor vice versa.

So far as it is possible to foresee the future, it would seem that the present trends will continue and might very well be accelerated during the present decade. The private landlord might very well soon become extinct by reasons not connected with statute law. Some Council tenants and prospective Council tenants with the easier mortgage facilities now available, might well compare mortgage repayments with the rent of a new Corporation house or flat, and decide, taking all things into consideration, that their wishes will be more fully met by house ownership. This is more likely to be the case as the older houses which are now selling with vacant possession at between £600 and £1,200 become available due to death and population movement.

The City Council will need, at an early date, to consider its future housing policy. In doing this, it would, in my opinion, be unwise to disregard the fairly widespread preference for house ownership which has been manifest during the last decade. Consideration should also be given to population trends and likely changes in the age structure of the population.

During the last few years some local authorities have built blocks of flats for single people. I have had the opportunity of seeing a block of such flats in Glasgow and was very impressed. There is, throughout the country, a demand for this type of accommodation by professional and semi-professional people, but what the demand is in Lancaster is not yet known.

Many of the bad social conditions which existed forty years ago when housing subsidies were first introduced have been removed. A social revolution, which results in the majority of people owning the house they live in, is not a bad thing. People with a stake in a country often make better citizens, also, generally speaking, owner-occupied houses have a better cared for appearance. Brightly painted houses are to be seen now in many Lancaster streets.

One of the difficulties in the way of building houses for sale is the lack of land available in the City for the purpose. This has resulted in people moving from Lancaster to other districts.

The City Council might well be asked to re-examine the town map to see whether land now zoned for other purposes than food production, e.g., light industry, is ever likely to be utilised for the purpose for which it is at present zoned and, if not, take steps to have the map altered.

A new appraisal of the housing situation is necessary.



With the help of financial assistance from the Joseph Rowntree Village Trust, the Universities of London, Manchester and Nottingham are at present making a study of housing matters. Manchester University have elected to do their field work in Lancaster. It will take several years to complete the study, but no doubt from time to time, as the work proceeds, information helpful to the City Council will be made available.

Some of the information given in this part of the report about the housing situation in 1958, was supplied by Mr. J. B. Cullingworth, the member of Manchester University staff in charge of the Lancaster survey, and I gratefully acknowledge his help in this respect.

Slum clearance, new house building and the improvement grant scheme have already been discussed. There remains the question of a housing repair programme. In some cases the Rent Act, 1957, stimulated landlords to execute repairs, but often these repairs were of a superficial nature. Whilst there remains a fairly large number of rented houses, there would appear to be no substitute for the systematic inspection of these houses and the enforcement of proper repairs by Public Health Inspectors. During 1958, however, the house repair programme had to be halted because of unfilled vacancies for Public Health Inspectors.

### **Common Lodging Houses**

There are no common lodging houses in the City.

### **Houses Let in Lodgings**

The larger obsolete type of house which is frequently occupied by several families remains a public health and housing problem. Into these houses the problem or near problem families tend to gravitate and often the conditions in which these people live are very substandard. These houses ought to be given a great deal of supervision by your public health inspectors. Unfortunately, shortage of public health inspectors and the heavy demands on the services of the remaining staff in other directions prevented this during 1958.

### **Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.**

There are no tents, vans, or other similar erections used at present for human habitation in the City.

### **Underground Sleeping Rooms**

Action to deal with the small number of underground dwellings in use in the City must wait for a Bill to become law which will restore the power of local authorities to make Regulations as to the future of these dwellings.

Statistical information in relation to housing matters is given below.

## HOUSING—STATISTICAL INFORMATION

### Houses without Internal Piped Supply of Water, etc.

(a) Number of houses which have not an adequate internal water supply ... ..	5
(b) Number of houses which have no separate water closet or other adequate sanitary accommodation ... ..	59

### Inspection of Dwelling Houses

1. Total number of dwellings inspected ... ..	214
2. Total number of inspections made ... ..	524
3. Number of houses inspected found to be unfit but capable of repair at reasonable cost ... ..	48
4. Number of houses inspected and found not to be unfit but requiring repairs enforceable under the Public Health Act ... ..	64
5. Number of houses inspected which were found to be unfit but were not capable of being made fit at reasonable cost ... ..	9
6. Number of houses inspected which called for no further action ... ..	93
7. Total number of unfit houses existing at end of 1958 ...	383

### Notices Served

8. Formal notices under the Housing Acts requiring repairs to render houses fit for human habitation ... ..	19
9. Formal notices requiring repairs, etc., under the Public Health Act ... ..	7
10. Informal notices requiring repairs to houses ... ..	76
11. Intimations to owners concerning lack of information in rent books ... ..	—

### Results of Action

	<i>After Informal Notice</i>	<i>After Formal Notice</i>
<b>Repair of Houses</b>		
12. Houses made fit following the service of Housing Act notices ... ..	17	32
13. Houses in which defects were remedied after the service of notices under the Public Health Act ... ..	3	13
<b>Demolition and Closure of Dwellings</b>		
14. Unfit houses demolished during the year ... ..		22
Number of families rehoused from houses in confirmed Slum Clearance Schemes ... ..		45
Number of persons rehoused from houses in confirmed Slum Clearance Schemes ... ..		134
15. Houses closed during the year ... ..		3
Number of persons rehoused from these houses ... ..		12
16. Dwellings, which were parts of buildings, closed ... ..		—
Number of persons rehoused from these dwellings ... ..		—



**Repairs to Dwellings**

Roofs repaired or stripped and renewed	...	...	...	54
External walls re-built and re-pointed	...	...	...	30
Rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	69
Eavesgutters repaired or renewed	...	...	...	89
Chimney stacks re-built	...	...	...	7
Yards, passages, pavements repaired or renewed	...	...	...	13
Ceilings re-plastered or repaired	...	...	...	12
Internal walls re-plastered or repaired	...	...	...	116
Windows repaired or renewed	...	...	...	178
Doors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	12
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	28
Fireplaces repaired or renewed	...	...	...	17
Sinks repaired or renewed	...	...	...	16
Repairs to water supply systems	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	16
Staircases repaired or renewed	...	...	...	9

**Houses Improved with the Help of Financial Grants**

Total number of schemes submitted to the Council	...	...	28
Number of dwellings affected by the schemes	...	...	28
Number of schemes completed by the end of the year	...	...	21
Additional dwellings provided	...	...	2

**New Dwellings Erected During the Year**

						<i>Houses</i>	<i>Flats</i>
By the City Council	...	...	...	...	...	46	8
By private persons	...	...	...	...	...	30	—
Total						76	8

**Overcrowding**

**Housing Act, 1936. Part IV**

At 31st December, 1958, 2 families in the City were overcrowded. This is 5 less than there were at the end of 1957.

During the year 13 cases of overcrowding were abated.

The ways in which the overcrowding was abated are shown in the table below.

**Abatement of Overcrowding during 1958**

1. Cases rehoused by the City Council	...	...	...	7
2. Cases abated following warnings given by the Health Department	...	...	...	3
3. Cases abated following legal proceedings	...	...	...	—
4. Cases abated either by voluntary action on the part of the families concerned or by changed circumstances, e.g., a death in the family or a member leaving home for reasons of work	...	...	...	3
Total cases abated				13

**Overcrowding Position during 1958**

1.	Cases remaining at 31-12-57	...	...	...	...	7
2.	Number of new cases reported during 1958	...	...	...	...	8
3.	(a) Number of cases abated during 1958	...	...	...	...	13
	(b) Number of persons concerned in (a) above	...	...	...	...	80
4.	Number of cases of overcrowding in Council houses which were abated during the year	...	...	...	...	—
5.	(a) Number of dwellings which remained overcrowded at the end of 1958	...	...	...	...	2
	(b) Number of families dwelling in these houses	...	...	...	...	2
	(c) Number of persons dwelling in these houses	...	...	...	...	22

There were no cases during the year in which houses became again overcrowded after the Council had taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding.

**SANITARY CONDITIONS IN SCHOOLS**

Routine inspections of all the schools situated in the City were made by the Public Health Inspectors during the year.

Information concerning the present sanitary, drinking, and washing arrangements, etc., in the schools is given in Table I below, and the improvements made during 1958 is given in Table II.

TABLE I

Total number of schools in the City	...	...	...	...	39
Number with fresh water closets only	...	...	...	...	38
Number with trough closets	...	...	...	...	1
Number with unsatisfactory yard surfaces	...	...	...	...	8
Number with inadequate washing facilities	...	...	...	...	23
Number with inadequate drinking facilities	...	...	...	...	—

The arrangements for the serving and taking of meals are not satisfactory in a number of schools, but some improvements were made during the year.

TABLE II

- Lancaster Royal Grammar School**—Auto flushing provided to urinals in Old Side. Boarders' Kitchen brought up to standard.
- Bowerham Junior**—Wooden insert replaced in boys' W.C.
- Scotforth C. of E.**—Floor of junior urinal repaired.
- Greaves Secondary Modern**—Boys' W.C. converted to individual flushing.
- Cathedral R.C. Junior and Infants**—12 trough closets replaced by 14 F.W.C.s.
- Christ Church Junior**—Gateway made between boys' and girls' yards (to obviate the need for dustbins to be carried through the school).
- Dallas Road Secondary Modern**—New sterilising sink. New white sink. New hot plate and crockery chest.

**Dallas Road Junior and Infants**—One additional W.C. provided for staff. New water heater in washing up room.

**St. Thomas's Girls' Secondary Modern**—14 new W.C. cisterns provided.

**Willows Lane Nursery School**—New sink in kitchen.

**Marsh Junior**—New glazed sink, sterilising sink, wash-hand basin, and hot plate provided.

**Girls' Grammar School**—New oil-fired air heater installed.

**Storey Institute Technical College**—New sink in first floor canteen. Premises painted.

**Storey Institute Art School**—Premises painted.

### PLACES OF ENTERTAINMENT

Fifteen inspections of places of public entertainment were made during the course of the year. No conditions were recorded which would necessitate the City Council taking further action.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The administration of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, and Milk and Dairies Regulations.

#### Milk Supply : Supervision and Distribution

During the year Public Health Inspectors made a total of 27 inspections of the 8 dairies situated in the City. It was found necessary on 1 occasion to draw attention to a contravention of the Regulations.

#### Average Daily Consumption of Milk

The average daily consumption of milk per head of the population increased slightly from 0.69 pints to 0.72 pints.

The proportion of pasteurised milk consumed in the City increased from 68.02% in 1957 to 71.83% in 1958. The amount of sterilised milk fell from 8.31% in 1957 to 8.05% in 1958. The consumption of heat treated milk (i.e., pasteurised and sterilised) rose by 3.56% during 1958.

<i>Description</i>				<i>Daily Consump- tion in Galons</i>	<i>Per centum of Whole</i>
Non-descript Raw Milk	...	...	...	45	1.03%
Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	...	842	19.09%
Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	2101	47.64%
T.T. (Pasteurised) Milk	...	...	...	1068	24.19%
Sterilised Milk	...	...	...	355	8.05%
Total	...	...	...	4411	100.00%

Average daily consumption in pints per head of population ... 0.72 pints



				<i>Amount bottled Outside the City (in gals. per day)</i>	<i>Amount bottled in the City (in gals. per day)</i>
<b>Quantity of Milk Bottled (in gallons)</b>					
Non-descript Raw Milk	...	...	45	—	
Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	666	176	
Pasteurised Milk	...	...	1304	801	
T.T. (Pasteurised) Milk	...	...	312	752	
Sterilised Milk	...	...	355	—	
				2682	1729

**Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949**  
**Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk)**  
**Regulations, 1949**

Information concerning the number of licences issued under the above-mentioned Regulations during 1958 is given below :—

- Tuberculin Tested Milk : Bottling, Nil. Dealers other than bottlers, 82.
- Pasteurised Milk : Pasteurising Plant, 1. Dealers, 75.
- Sterilised Milk : Dealers, 82.

**Sampling of Milk for Bacteriological and Biological, etc., Tests**

TESTS FOR TUBERCLE IN MILK

Information concerning the number of samples and grades of milk submitted for biological tests for the presence of tubercle bacilli and the results of the tests is given in the following table.

TESTS FOR TUBERCLE IN MILK

	Nondescript Raw Milk	Tuberculin Tested Milk
Total Number Taken ... ..	1	41
Number Negative ... ..	1	40
Number Positive ... ..	—	—
No Result ... ..	—	1
Percentage Positive ... ..	—	—



### Sampling of Milk for Good Keeping Quality and for Evidence of Adequate Pasteurisation or Sterilisation

Information concerning the testing of milk for good keeping quality and for adequate heat treatment is given in the following tables.

SAMPLES OF MILK TAKEN FOR METHYLENE BLUE AND B.COLI TESTS

	Nondescript Raw Milk	Tuberculin Tested Milk	Pasteurised Milk	Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)
Total Number Taken ...	2	54	38	15
Number Satisfactory ...	—	40	37	15
Number Unsatisfactory .	2	12	1	—
No Result ... ..	—	—	—	—
Percent Unsatisfactory .	100%	23.08%	2.40 %	—

SAMPLES OF MILK TAKEN FOR PHOSPHATASE TESTS

	Pasteurised Milk	Tuberculin Tested ( Pasteurised ) Milk
Total Number Taken ... ..	38	15
Number Satisfactory ... ..	38	15
Number Unsatisfactory ... ..	—	—
No Result ... ..	—	—
Percentage Unsatisfactory ... ..	—	—

SAMPLES OF MILK TAKEN FOR BRUCELLA ABORTUS TESTS

	Nondescript Raw Mlik	Tested iMlk Tuberculin
Total Number Taken ... ..	2	48
Number Satisfactory ... ..	2	45
No. Positive Whey Agglutination Test	—	1
No. Test done ... ..	—	2
Percent Pos. Whey Agglutination Test	—	2.08%

SAMPLES OF STERILISED MILK TAKEN FOR TURBIDITY TEST

Number taken : 6. Results all satisfactory.

### Observations on Results of Tests

The percentage of samples of nondescript raw milk which failed to pass the good keeping quality test (methylene blue) increased from 50% in 1957 to 100% in 1958. The proportion of T.T. samples which failed to pass the test rose from 19% in 1957 to 23% in 1958.

The number of samples of nondescript raw milk which have failed the good keeping quality test have shown a steady rise from 1950.

Bacteriological and Chemical Examination of Ice-Cream

Bacteriological Examination

Out of 18 samples of ice-cream taken for bacteriological examination 15 were placed in Grade 1 which indicates these samples were highly satisfactory. One sample was placed in Grade 3 and 2 in Grade 4, which means they were not satisfactory.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION

No. of Samples Taken	Methylene Blue Decolourisation Test		B. Coli		Ministry of Health Provisional Grades			
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Absent Satisfactory	Present Unsatisfactory	1	2	3	4
18	15	3	18	—	15	—	1	2

Chemical Examination

No sample of ice-cream sent for analysis contained less than the legal minimum of 5% fat. The majority of samples contained between 7.5% and 11%.

TABLE SHOWING FAT CONTENT

No. of Samples Taken	Under 5.0%	5.0% - 7.5%	7.5% - 10.0%	Over 10.0%
9	—	3	1	5

Bacteriological Examination of Foodstuffs in General

The following table gives information concerning foods taken in routine sampling to ascertain whether the food had been prepared, handled, and stored under hygienic conditions. It will be seen that, although a fairly wide variety of foods were sampled, none was found to be unsatisfactory.

Sample					Number Taken	Satisfactory	Not Satisfactory
Boiled Ham	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
Brawn	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
Corned Beef	...	...	...	...	2	2	—
Cornish Pasty	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
Cream Cake	...	...	...	...	6	6	—
Cream Cake and Icing	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
Cream Puff	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
Cream Trifle	...	...	...	...	1	1	—

Custard	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
Custard Tart	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
Fruit Tart with Cream	...	...	...	...	2	2	—
Ham Sandwich	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
Iced Cake	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
Meat Pie	...	...	...	...	10	10	—
Meat and Onion Pasty	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
Meat and Potato Pie	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
Pork Pie	...	...	...	...	2	2	—
Roast Pork	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
Sausages	...	...	...	...	1	1	—
Sausage Roll	...	...	...	...	1	1	—

**Meat and Other Foods**

The following are particulars of meat inspection carried out by your Public Health Inspectors during the year at the abattoir.

NUMBER OF ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED AND INSPECTED AT ABATTOIR

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	3,214	380	84	12,092	9,849
Number Inspected	3,214	380	84	12,092	9,849
All Diseases Except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:					
Whole carcasses condemned	3	8	5	16	22
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1,631	303	—	63	575
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis & cysti.	50·84%	81·84%	5·95%	·65%	6·06%
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcasses condemned	3	1	—	—	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	119	16	—	—	70
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	3·80%	4·74%	—	—	·73%
Cystercercosis:					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	10	1	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	10	1	—	—	—
Generalised & totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

**Total Units Killed and Inspected**

	<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Total</i>
1956	31,390	696	22,658	23,979	78,723
1957	33,040	417	21,966	25,719	81,142
1958	35,940	242	24,184	29,547	89,913

For conversion from animals killed and inspected to inspection units the following equivalents are used :—

One cattle beast	...	10 units
One calf	...	3 units
One sheep	...	2 units
One pig	...	3 units



AMOUNT OF MEAT CONDEMNED BY WEIGHT					<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>
(a) <i>For Tuberculosis:</i>								
Cattle	...	...	...	...	1	4	0	9
Calves	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Sheep	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Pigs	...	...	...	...	—	8	1	9
					1	12	1	18
(b) <i>For other Conditions:</i>								
Cattle	...	...	...	...	5	11	1	18
Calves	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Sheep	...	...	...	...	—	2	3	15
Pigs	...	...	...	...	1	2	—	23
					6	16	2	—

### Effect of Tuberculin Tests Scheme on Amount of Meat Condemned for Tuberculosis

The tuberculin tests scheme instituted many years ago has now ensured an almost tubercle free milk supply. It has also reduced considerably the amount of meat which has to be condemned because of tuberculosis. The latter result has not received the same amount of publicity as has the former.

Since the middle of 1954 when meat control ended, to the end of 1958, the total number of animals killed at the Lancaster abattoir has steadily increased, but the percentage of animals found to be affected with tuberculosis has steadily decreased. The percentage of animals found to be affected with tuberculosis in 1958 was slightly higher than was the case in 1957. This might well, however, have been due to a greater activity on the part of the farmers to rid their herds of reactors before the City is included in a specified area.

Table I below gives the number of cattle and calves slaughtered and the numbers and percentages found to have been affected with tuberculosis between 1952 and 1958.

Table II shows the general trend towards the eradication of tuberculosis in cattle and calves during the last 30 years, i.e., 1928-1958.



TABLE I.

CATTLE AND CALVES SLAUGHTERED AND NUMBERS AND PERCENTAGES  
FOUND TO BE AFFECTED WITH TUBERCULOSIS DURING PERIOD 1952-58

Year	Animals Inspected			Whole Carcases				Part of Carcases			
				No. Condemned		As % of No. Inspected		No. Condemned		As % of No. Inspected	
	Cattle	Calves	Total	Cattle	Calves	Cattle %	Calves %	Cattle	Calves	Cattle %	Calves %
1952	3,680	3,785	7,465	61	1	1.7	.03	715	—	19.4	—
1953	4,322	4,877	9,199	59	1	1.4	.02	1,330	—	30.8	—
1954	3,100	2,166	5,266	25	—	.8	—	604	—	19.5	—
1955*	2,429	285	2,714	7	—	.3	—	177	—	7.3	—
1956	3,139	232	3,371	7	—	.2	—	124	—	4.0	—
1957	3,304	139	3,443	1	—	.03	—	111	—	3.4	—
1958	3,594	84	3,678	4	—	.1	—	135	—	3.8	—

\* First full year of decontrol following 1939-45 war.

TABLE II.

SHOWING DECLINE IN CATTLE AND CALVES AFFECTED WITH TUBERCULOSIS  
DURING 30 YEARS PERIOD 1928-58

Year	(a) Total No. of Cattle and Calves Inspected	(b) No. of Whole Carcases (Cattle and Calves) Affected with Tuberculosis	(c) (b) as percentage of (a) %
1928	2,917	112	3.8
1938	3,298	23	.7
1958	3,678	4	.1

#### Particulars of Other Foodstuffs Condemned during 1958

One hundred and seventy-seven visits were made to food shops and stores for the purpose of examining food, and the following amounts of food were condemned as unfit for human consumption. In all cases the food was voluntarily surrendered and the question of legal proceedings did not arise.

Tinned Goods:	<i>Tins</i>		<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>
Tinned Meat ...	818	...	1	7	2	24
Tinned Milk ...	160	...	—	1	1	5
Tinned Fish ...	107	...	—	—	2	4
Tinned Fruit ...	698	...	—	8	3	16
Tinned Vegetables ..	342	...	—	2	2	25
Tinned, Miscellaneous	88	...	—	—	3	—
	2213	...	2	1	3	18

Other Condemned Foods:				<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>
Apricots ...	...	...	...	—	—	1	16
Bacon, Danish ...	...	...	...	—	—	—	9 $\frac{1}{4}$
Bacon, Irish ...	...	...	...	—	—	2	10
Beef, Australian ...	...	...	...	—	1	3	1
Carrots ...	...	...	...	—	—	—	21
Chickens ...	...	...	...	—	—	1	22
Dates ...	...	...	...	—	—	2	14
Fish, Cured ...	...	...	...	—	—	3	—
Fish, Fresh ...	...	...	...	—	1	1	8
Gooseberries ...	...	...	...	—	—	—	1 $\frac{3}{4}$
Ham ...	...	...	...	—	—	—	14
Liver, Australian, Sheep	...	...	...	—	—	—	10
Loin, Pork ...	...	...	...	—	—	—	7
Meat, Potted ...	...	...	...	—	—	—	$\frac{1}{4}$
Mutton ...	...	...	...	—	—	—	20
Peaches ...	...	...	...	—	—	2	24
Potatoes, Jersey ...	...	...	...	—	11	1	17
Powder, Soup ...	...	...	...	—	—	—	3
Scampi ...	...	...	...	—	—	1	20
Sultanas ...	...	...	...	—	—	1	2
Tongue, Ox ...	...	...	...	—	—	1	4
				—	19	3	0 $\frac{1}{4}$

### Food Premises

With the exception of a small number of public houses, yet to be done, the survey of food premises, commenced when the Food Hygiene Regulations became operative, was completed during 1958. The type of defects discovered from the survey are shown in the table below.

Deficiencies							<i>No. of deficiencies found</i>
Inadequate lighting	...	...	...	...	...	...	75
Inadequate ventilation	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Insufficient sinks	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
None or insufficient washhand basins	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
Not displaying notices regarding washing of hands	...	...	...	...	...	...	43
Lack of proper facilities for supply of hot water	...	...	...	...	...	...	59
Lack of storage accommodation for outer clothing	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Insufficient refuse receptacles	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Lack of first-aid equipment	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Lack of proper protection of food from contamination	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Defective counter surfaces	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Defective sanitary accommodation	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Lack of cleanliness	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Defective floor covering	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Walls and ceilings requiring redecoration	...	...	...	...	...	...	92
Lack of soap, towels, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	56

Information concerning the improvements made in food premises during the year is given on page 38

### **Routine Inspections of Food Premises**

One of the most effective safeguards against food borne infections is the supervision of food premises by routine inspections. These are also a good form of health education. In addition to the detailed survey the following routine inspections of food premises were made by the Public Health Inspectors during 1958:—

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	132
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	96
Meat Stores, Abattoir, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	805
Fish Fryers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
Restaurant Kitchens, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	96
Ice-Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	114
Market Stalls	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	471
Other food premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	601
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Snack Bars, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	108
Public Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Food preparing premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	304

### **Market Hall and Church Street Market**

Unfortunately, no material improvements were made during the year in the city's markets. Four years have passed since my detailed report on the unhygienic conditions which exist was published.



Public Abattoir

In spite of the obsolete building, etc., a reasonable standard of hygiene was maintained at the Public Abattoir throughout the year.

Lack of proper cooling facilities for carcasses, etc., continue to cause concern to your health officers and the traders.

Sampling and Analysis of Food and Drugs for Adulteration, etc.

The following tables indicate the number and type of samples of food and drugs submitted for analysis during the year.

MILK

Number of Samples Taken	Number of poor quality (not adulterated)	Deficient Legal Proceedings not considered warranted	Obviously Adulterated
Formal 43	7	3	—

			<i>Non-Fatty</i>		
			<i>Milk Fat</i>	<i>Solids</i>	<i>Water</i>
Average for the year ...	...	...	3.71%	8.62%	87.67%
Legal minimum standards ...	...	...	3.00%	8.50%	88.50%

Analysis of Other Food and Drugs

Samples of the following foods were submitted for analysis during the year:—

<i>Food or Drug</i>	<i>No. of Samples Taken</i>					<i>Not Genuine</i>
Bengers Food ...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Black Puddings ...	...	...	...	...	2	—
Borax ...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Bronchial Mixture ...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Butter ...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Butter, Rum ...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Cake Covering, Chocolate ...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Cake Decorations, Edible ...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Cheese Spread ...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Dripping ...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Flavour, Raspberry ...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Flour, Self Raising ...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Gin ...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Ginger Beverage ...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Ginger, Ground ...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Honey ...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Ice Cream, Ready Mix ...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Jelly, Table ...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Lard ...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Margarine ...	...	...	...	...	1	—

Marmalade	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Milk, Condensed	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Milk, Evaporated	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Paste, Beef	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Paste, Salmon	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Pepper, Ground Cayenne	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Powder, Curry	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
Powder, Liquorice	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Powder, Milk Shake	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Powder, Turmeric	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Rice Creamola	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Sausage, Beef	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Sauce, Mustard	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Soup, Oxtail	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Sherry	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
Stuffing, Sage and Onion	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Tablets, Aspirin	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Tablets, Pluravite	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Tablets, Yeast	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Tea	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Tonic, Metatone	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Tonic, Nerve	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Toffee, Invalid Butter	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Vinegar, Cider	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Vinegar, Malt	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Vodka	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Whisky	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Wine, Sweet	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Yoghourt	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
*Breakfast Flakes	...	...	...	...	...	1	1a
*Rolled Oats	...	...	...	...	...	1	1b

\* Legal proceedings subsequently taken.

*a* Found to be infested with mites and book lice.

*b* Found to be infested with book lice.

## WATER SUPPLY

### Sources, Purification and Distribution

No alterations in the sources of supply of water were made during the year. The water, which is partly moorland surface water from the Council's own catchment area, and partly from Manchester's Thirlmere supply, is subjected to mechanical filtration and chlorination.

14,139 dwelling houses have an internal piped supply; one block of 3 houses rely on a common standpipe, one house is supplied by a spring and 1 from a stream. These latter houses are situated in the rural part of the area, and it has not been reasonably practicable to provide a piped supply.

Sampling of Tap Water

Three samples of tap water from houses were submitted for analysis and 30 for bacteriological examination. The reports, abstracts of which are given in the following tables, indicate that the supply was satisfactory.

EXTRACTS FROM REPORTS ON CHEMICAL EXAMINATION OF TAP WATER

Test	25-11-58	25-11-58	25-11-58
Colour ... ..	Nil	Nil	Nil
Turbidity ... ..	Nil	Nil	Nil
Oxygen Absorbed ... ..	0.55	0.65	06.0
Ammoniacal Nitrogen ... ..	0.01	Under 0.01	0.01
Albuminoid Nitrogen ... ..	0.03	0.04	0.02
Nitrite Nitrogen ... ..	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nitrate Nitrogen ... ..	0.3	0.2	0.3
Chlorine present as chloride ... ..	11	12	12
Carbonate Hardness ... ..	10	15	10
Non-carbonate Hardness ... ..	20	20	25
Total Hardness ... ..	30	35	35
pH value ... ..	8.0	7.2	6.6
Total Solid Residue ... ..	40	60	80
Action on Lead ... ..	Under 0.1	Under 0.1	Under 0.1

EXTRACTS FROM REPORTS ON  
BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF TAP WATER

Date	Aerobic micro organisms growing in yeastral agar  In 2 days at 37°C.	Probable No. of coliform organisms per 100 c.c. of water	Ward sample taken	Re- marks
15/1/58	3	Nil	Scotforth	
"	Nil	Nil	Queens	
"	2	Nil	Queens	
19/2/58	Nil	Nil	Queens	
"	1	Nil	J.O.G.	
"	1	Nil	Park	
26/3/58	Nil	Nil	Scotforth	
"	1	Nil	J.O.G.	
"	3	Nil	Park	
7/5/58	Nil	Nil	Scotforth	
"	Nil	Nil	Scotforth	
"	Nil	Nil	Park	
18/6/58	Nil	Nil	Scotforth	
"	1	Nil	Scotforth	
"	Nil	Nil	Queens	
20/8/58	1	Nil	Scotforth	
"	Nil	Nil	J.O.G.	
"	Nil	Nil	Skerton West	
29/9/58	4	8	Scotforth	
"	Nil	Nil	J.O.G.	
"	2	Nil	Park	
22/10/58	3	Nil	Scotforth	
"	Nil	Nil	J.O.G.	
"	Nil	Nil	Park	
25/11/58	Nil	Nil	Scotforth	
"	1	Nil	J.O.G.	
"	1	Nil	Park	
30/12/58	1	Nil	J.O.G.	
"	1	Nil	J.O.G.	
"	Nil	Nil	Park	



# BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF SWIMMING BATH WATER

Fifteen samples of swimming bath water were submitted for bacteriological examination and extracts from the reports are given below :—

Date	Aerobic micro-organisms growing in yeastral agar	Prob. No. of coliform organisms per 100 c.c. of water	Bath from which sample was taken	Remarks
	2 days at 37°C.			
15/1/58	1	Nil	Corp'n Minor Plunge	
19/2/58	Nil	Nil	Corp'n Minor Plunge	
26/3/58	Nil	Nil	Corp'n Minor Plunge	
7/5/58	Nil	Nil	Corp'n Minor Plunge	
	Nil	Nil	Corp'n Major Plunge	
18/6/58	240	Nil	Corp'n Minor Plunge	
	2	Nil	L.R.G.S.	
3/7/58	3	Nil	Corp'n Major Plunge	
20/8/58	18	Nil	Corp'n Minor Plunge	
	6	Nil	Corp'n Major Plunge	
29/9/58	Nil	Nil	Corp'n Minor Plunge	
	Nil	Nil	Corp'n Major Plunge	
22/10/58	500	Nil	Corp'n Minor Plunge	
25/11/58	Nil	Nil	Corp'n Minor Plunge	
30/12/58	1	Nil	Corp'n Minor Plunge	

## Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Details of the premises visited, number found to be infested, and information concerning treatment are given in the following tables :—

### SURFACE TREATMENT

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				Agri- cultural (5)
	Non-Agricultural				
	Local Au- thority  (1)	Dw'lling Houses (includ'g Council Houses) (2)	All Other (includg Business Pr'mises) (3)	Total of Cols. (1), (2) & (3) (4)	
I. Number of properties in Local Authority's District ...	37	13,953	2,574	16,564	20
II. Number of properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification ... ..	2	49	63	114	2
(b) Survey under the Act ...	9	—	112	121	16
(c) Otherwise (e.g., when visi- ted primarily for some other purpose) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
III. Total inspections carried out —including re-inspections ...	22	450	546	1,018	31
IV. Number of properties in- spected (in Sect. II) which were found to be infested by:					
(a) Rats Major ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Minor ... ..	—	15	25	40	4
(b) Mice Major ... ..	—	—	10	10	—
Minor ... ..	—	32	21	53	—
V. Number of infested properties (in Sect. IV) treated by Local Authority ... ..	—	47	56	103	4
VI. Total treatments carried out —including re-treatments ...	—	47	56	103	4
VII. Number of Notices served under Sect. 4 of the Act.:					
(a) Treatment ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Structural Work (i.e., proofing) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
VIII. Number of cases in which default action was taken fol- lowing the issue of a notice under Sect. 4 of the Act ...	—	—	—	—	—
IX. Legal proceedings ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
X. Number of " block " control schemes carried out ... ..	—	—	—	—	—

## SEWER TREATMENT

Total number of manholes in the City : 1,470.

Treatment Number : No. 1; No. 2.

Total number of manholes in area treated : No. 1, 514; No. 2, 397.

Number of manholes treated : No. 1, 489; No. 2, 319.

Date treatment began : No. 1, 30/4/58; No. 2, 27/10/58.

Poison used : No. 1, Zinc Phosphide; No. 2, Arsenious Oxide, Paranitrophenol.

Bait used : No. 1, Sausage Rusk; No. 2, Bread Rusk.

Baiting sequence (e.g., 1-4-8, “ direct ”, etc.) : No. 1, 1-4-8; No. 2, 1-4-8.

Number of manholes showing take : No. 1, 170; No. 2, 98.

## Disinfection and Disinfestation of Premises, etc.

Information concerning the disinfection and disinfestation of premises and articles carried out during the year is given in the following tables:—

### DISINFECTION (PREMISES)

Premises Disinfected			Single Rooms Disinfected		
No. of Whole Houses	No. of Ships	No. of other Premises	In Houses	In Ships	In other Premises
11	Nil	Nil	11	Nil	4

### DISINFECTION (BOOKS AND OTHER ARTICLES)

Books Disinfected		Other Articles	Articles Destroyed	
Public Library	Private Library		Books	Other Articles
56	2	Nil	Nil	1



**Insect Pest Control**

Twelve houses, 3 Council owned and 9 others, 20 other premises and 7 single rooms were disinfested by means of liquid insecticides, and 33 vans of furniture were fumigated with HCN during rehousing operations. Fuller information is given in the table below.

Type of premises treated	Type of Infestation					Single Rooms
	Bugs	Flies	Ants	Cock-roaches	Others	
Corporation Houses ...	—	—	—	1 2 rooms	2 8 rooms	1
Other Houses ...	1 2 rooms	—	—	6 25 rooms	2 14 rooms	6
Other Premises .	—	1 2 rooms	2 11 rooms	16 96 rooms	1 4 rooms	—
Totals ...	1 2 rooms	1 2 rooms	2 11 rooms	23 123 rooms	5 26 rooms	7

**LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

Nil.



SECTION “ E ”

## Port Health



## LANCASTER PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

The use of the port is mainly confined to a small amount of coastal traffic and similar cargo boats from the Continent. In view of this the more elaborate arrangements required in a larger port are not called for here.

### Section I—Staff

Name of Officer	Nature of Appointment	Date of Appointment	Qualifications	Any other appointments held
Robert W. Farquhar	Port M.O.H.	1/7/52	B.Sc. (Agri.), M B., Ch.B., D.P.H.	Divisional M.O.H., Health Division No. 2 M.O.H., Carnforth U.D.C. M.O.H., City of Lancaster M.O.H., Lancaster R.D.C. M.O.H., Lunesdale R.D.C.
Frederick Shaw	Inspector to Port Health Authority	1/12/43	Cert. of R.S.I. & S.I. Joint Board ; D.P.A. ; F.R.S.H.	Chief Public Health Inspector, City of Lancaster

### Section II

#### Amount of Shipping Entering the District During the Year

Ships from	Number	Registered Tonnage	Number Inspected		Number of Ships reported as having or having had during the voyage infectious disease on board
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Public Health Inspector	
Foreign Ports	12	2,625	—	8	—
Coastwise ...	20	3,794	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	32	6,419	—	8	—

### Section III

#### Character of Shipping and Trade During the Year

---

Passenger Traffic ... ..	Number of passengers INWARDS ... ..	Nil
	Number of passengers OUTWARDS ... ..	Nil

---

Cargo Traffic ... ..	Principal IMPORTS: Clay, Linseed Oil, Stone.
	Principal EXPORTS: Coke Breeze.

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Principal Ports from which ships arrive :—

Foreign — France, Holland.

Coastwise ... Liverpool, Penmaenmawr, Clay Ports,  
Cornwall, London, N. Ireland.

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#### Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Prevention of Damage by Pests (Application to Shipping) Order, 1951

Number of Rodent Control Certificates issued — 21.







Beeley Bros., Penny Street, Lancaster



